

## Violent anti-U.S. protest in Seoul

SEOUL (AP) — Radical students hurled homemade bombs and swinging from trees broke into the U.S. ambassador's home Friday and went on a half-hour rampage, smashing artwork and other objects before police dragged them out, officials said. Ambassador Donald Gregg and his wife escaped unhurt. Later, hundreds of radical students staged anti-U.S. protests on at least three Seoul campuses, burning American flags and calling for the expulsion of U.S. troops from South Korea. Police said six male students belonging to an "anti-U.S. death squad" scaled the walls of Gregg's residential compound about one kilometre from the U.S. embassy and hurled teargas at guards who tried to stop them. U.S. officials said the attackers diverged and police guards by setting of "homemade firecracker-like noise bombs" and, once inside, ransacked the living room, smashing pottery and artwork. The students held off riot police for 30 minutes before troops firing teargas smashed down a door and seized them, police said. "Drive out the Yankees," students screamed as police hustled them away.

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## Kidnappers release Swiss stewardess

ZURICH (R) — A Swiss Airline stewardess held in Lebanon and held captive for five days has been released, Swissair said Friday. A spokesman said: "I can only confirm she is free." Astrid Fischer, 31, was on a three-month holiday when she was grabbed by unidentified gunmen near the northern port of Tripoli Sunday. In Beirut, a diplomatic source said Fischer's seizure resulted from a row between two rival boyfriends. One of them had ordered her abduction. He said she had been asked to leave Lebanon and not return. Syrian troops which control northern Lebanon handed Fischer over to former Lebanese President Salim Haddad. French Thursday following pressure from the Swiss government to secure her release. Swiss government sources said her case was not connected to that of two Swiss Red Cross workers, who were kidnapped in southern Lebanon eight days ago. Emmanuel Christa and Elie Erriquex were abducted outside a Red Cross Medical centre near the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ala Al Elweh at Sidon.

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## King lauds Canadian stand, hopes for continued efforts for peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

CALGARY — His Majesty King Hussein Friday paid tribute to Canada's positive approach to the Palestinian problem and called on the country to continue to exert efforts to seek a solution to the Middle East conflict. "We have noted with deep appreciation the positively evolving position of (the Canadian government)," said the King in an address at a dinner hosted by Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark and referred to Ottawa's decision in March this year to upgrade contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "This courageous and far-reaching decisions taken by the Palestinian people and their representative leadership, the PLO, regarding peace with Israel... reflect a realistic and pragmatic approach which has altered long-standing assumptions in a fundamental way. This

did not go unnoticed by the government of Canada. You reciprocated by upgrading the level of your contacts with the PLO and by recognising the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination," the King said. The King described Canada's reaffirmation of its commitment to Security Council Resolution 242 as a "major contribution to the cause of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East." The King expressed regret that "Israel remains adamant in its refusal to reciprocate the fundamental change of attitude which is taking place amongst the Palestinians, and which is supported by the entire Arab nation." "We hope that the Canadian government will continue to exert its influence in the positive manner which has characterised its approach to help put an end to this sad and tragic conflict," he said.

In his speech, the King also paid tribute to Canadian-Jordanian relations and expressed hope that the discussions he had with Canadian leaders during his current visit "will undoubtedly strengthen the already good relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries." Earlier, in a speech at the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, the King said Canadian-Jordanian relations had grown "in breadth and intensity over the past years," and praised Canada's "constructive spirit of international cooperation and genuine concern for the issues of peace and development." The King referred to the various problems encountered by the developing world, including economic issues, regional conflicts, global contamination and the waste of resources on the arms race which he said have had a sobering effect at the superpower level. He said: "collective efforts, both in the Arab-Canadian framework and the complementary sphere of Canadian-Jordanian cooperation, can contribute significantly to the develop-

ment of a better solution of the predicament of mankind." The King said the Arab-Israeli conflict had caused "environmental-demographic upheavals" with their "heaviest burdens on Jordan." "Not only two human waves of Palestinians had to be accommodated in Jordan in 1947 and 1967, but environment-demographic undercurrents were set in motion since 1947 that are still working themselves out as the 1990s approach," the King said. The King pointed out that Jordan was the only Arab country to provide the Palestinians with the opportunity to full and dignified socio-economic integration. "Israel has continued to evade the responsibilities towards the indigenous populations of Palestine," he said. "Extremists in Israel, in their continuous attempts to evade responsibility, have mounted the slogan that (Jordan is Palestine). By the same token, it can be claimed that Israel is Poland in view of the large proportion of its population originating there." The King said the only way for peace in the Middle East was through the "exercise by the Palestinians under occupation of their legitimate

rights of self-determination." The King underlined Jordan's firm commitment to a peaceful solution to the conflict on the basis of "universal accepted principles and conventions." "One such principle is the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war," he said. "Hence an unequivocal commitment to the principle of land for peace, the acknowledgement of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and the security of all states in the region are the cornerstone for such a lasting peace." "The Arabs, and the Palestinians in particular, have taken a clear stand in accepting these principles. This has been acknowledged and welcomed by the whole world, including Canada," he said. "How ironic it is that Israel has always claimed that the main hurdle to peace was Arab refusal to negotiate; now that the Palestinians have adopted a reasonable and realistic negotiating stand, Israel rejects the principle of land for peace and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians." He called on Israel to adopt a "more pragmatic and constructive



approach... to give peace a chance, so that the energies and resources of the region could be put to better use, that would generate economic prosperity for all people in the region." The King also referred to the economic situation in Jordan and said the Kingdom "has been put on a new course that is already enhancing its national economy and its regional role." "Controlling the fiscal deficit, deregulation, liberalisation and a closer integration with the world economy are the main pivots of Jordan's new strategy for the nineties," the King said. (Continued on page 3)

## Israelis kill 5, wound dozens

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — At least 12 Palestinians were shot and wounded by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Friday, one day after the occupying forces killed five Palestinians. A Palestinian driver who hit an Israeli man and a soldier Friday in the Gaza Strip was shot and wounded by Israeli troops, the army command said. The Israeli civilian suffered serious injuries, and the soldier was injured lightly, an army spokesman said. The spokesman said an army officer and a soldier who witnessed the incident in Gaza City opened fire on the Arab vehicle, wounding the driver. Hospital officials identified him as 23-year-old Jamal Mahmoud Abdul Adi of the Shati refugee camp. It was unclear if the incident was related to a protest strike called Friday in Shati to mourn the death of a camp resident shot a day earlier in a clash with Israeli troops. A three-year-old boy from Shati, Attiyah Al Ghurani, meanwhile was still in critical condition in hospital after suffering a shattered skull Thursday. Officials at Shifa hospital in Gaza said Thursday the injury was caused by a rubber bullet fired by Israeli soldiers. The army gave no explanation why it believed the Gaza incident was international. Also in Gaza City, the army sealed the houses of two boys detained last July and accused of membership in an underground "popular committee" that kidnapped Gazans to enforce directives in the uprising, journalists said. The attack in Gaza followed a day of bloody confrontations in the occupied territories Thursday, when Israeli troops shot to death five Palestinians. In the West Bank town of Nablus, residents staged an impromptu strike, closing shops and schools, to protest the shooting deaths of two Palestinians Thursday, residents said. Much of Thursday's violence occurred in Nablus. Journalists reported many confrontations between Palestinians and soldiers. Hospital officials said 13 Arabs from Nablus and nearby refugee camps were treated for gunshot wounds. Police patrolling Jenin refugee camp fatally shot a 20-year-old man who tried to hurl a cement block down on them, the army said. Britain's top diplomat in the Israeli-occupied territories has called for an inquiry into a report of soldiers shooting an Arab who had surrendered and then firing three bullets into him as he lay on the ground. British Consul-General Ivan Callan, who visited the occupied West Bank town of Nablus Wednesday, said a woman told him how she saw 21-year-old student Nidal Al Habash shot to death.

## Candidate registration begins today

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The process of restoration of parliamentary life to Jordan takes the first formal turn today with the authorities opening their doors to receive nomination papers from aspirants ranging from a 75-year-old tribal leader to a Western-educated 31-year-old seeking seats in the Lower House of Parliament in the Nov. 8 election. As of this morning, and over the next two days, candidates will submit their nominations, and formally launch their campaigns to gain the confidence, more important still, votes of the people to reach the domed Parliament house, deserted since July 31 last year when His Majesty King Hussein dissolved the Lower House to absorb the

reality of Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the occupied West Bank. Estimates of the number of candidate range between 700 and 800 for the 80 seats in the House, but, by all accounts, the race is tough for everyone except a few who appear to be already confidently planning their strategy on the House floor. The very lack of any meaningful contacts between the "public figures" and the electorate for a very long period, hardly any of the potential candidates is able to define his or her standing among the voters and to assess the chances of winning or losing the race. Indigenous statistical formulas projected by several candidates as a way of transcending this logjam lack a secure margin

of accuracy as a direct result of their inability to define political and social trends in the Kingdom. Almost everyone admits that the political and social forces in play in the Kingdom have undergone tremendous changes since 1967 when Jordan had its last general elections. Regional and national developments have further contributed to changing the priorities of the people as well as the decision-makers; the only element which has retained some semblance of stability is tribal affiliations which always played a key role in any Jordanian election, whether on the village and municipal level or on the national scene. Almost all would-be candidates agree that these forces can be generalised into three

categories governed respectively by the economy factor, Jordan's severance of links with the West Bank and the April unrest against price rises in the south in April. These were seen by many observers as the main contributors to the speeding up the democratic process in the Kingdom with a special emphasis on the urgency of holding national elections which would ensure public participation in decision-making as stipulated in the first article of the Constitution which stipulated that the rule is "parliamentary, monarchy and hereditary." His Majesty the King has said, as far back as February this year, that Jordan will hold general elections sometime soon. (Continued on page 3)

## Cairo confronts daunting task

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt faces an uphill task in trying to bridge a widening gulf between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Washington's ideas for Middle East peace talks, diplomats said Friday. "Palestinian attitudes are hardening," said one Western envoy. "(PLO Chairman Yasser) Arafat is under great pressure from within not to give any further ground." Two senior PLO officials arrived in Cairo early Friday for talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, and Palestinian sources said Arafat may follow in a matter of days. Foreign Ministry sources said the main issue likely to be discussed was U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's five-point formula for obtaining Israel's go-ahead for Israeli-Palestinian talks on possible elections in the occupied territories. "We will present the Baker plan, discuss the options and listen to what they (the PLO visitors) have to say," said one Foreign Ministry source. The officials visiting Egypt are PLO Executive Committee members Mahmoud Abbas and Yasser Arafat.

Hardline Palestinians have attacked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak over his efforts to break the impasse between Israel and the PLO. Mahmoud Abbas said in Tunis Thursday that the PLO Central Council meeting in Baghdad Sunday would discuss George Habash's remarks against Mubarak. Abbas told the Palestinian news agency Wafa that Habash's remarks were "no longer welcome on the Palestinian and Arab stage." Palestinians are increasingly frustrated at what they see as America's vacillation in the quest for peace. Salah Khalaf, a deputy to Arafat and leading member of the mainstream Fatah organisation, told Egypt's Middle East News Agency in remarks published Thursday that Washington was merely shuffling its feet. Arafat's political adviser, Bassam Abu Sharif, warned in an article published by the London-based Al Hayah newspaper that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict could explode unless the international community led by Washington stopped stalling. The Israeli Jerusalem Post Friday published what it said was the exact wording of Baker's five points. Israeli officials said the paper's wording was accurate and the points are as follows: 1. The U.S. understands that Egypt and Israel have been working hard and that there is now agreement that an Israeli delegation will conduct a dialogue with Palestinians in Cairo. 2. The U.S. understands that Egypt cannot substitute for the Palestinians in that dialogue and that Egypt will consult with the Palestinians on all aspects of that dialogue. Egypt will also consult with Israel and the U.S. 3. The U.S. understands that Israel will attend the dialogue after a satisfactory list of Palestinian demands has been worked out. Israel will also consult with the U.S. and Egypt on this matter. 4. The U.S. understands that the government of Israel will come to the dialogue on the basis of the Israeli government May 14 initiative. 5. In order to facilitate the process, the U.S. proposes that the foreign ministers of Israel, Egypt and the U.S. meet in Washington within two weeks. Israel Radio Wednesday broadcast an abridged version of the five points. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has dismissed the American idea as a way to revive Middle East peace efforts.

## Taif talks hit new/old snags

TAIF (AP) — Renewed tussling over the timetable for a Syrian troop withdrawal and a new Muslim-Christian power sharing agreement dented the optimism Friday that a parliamentary committee had agreed on a formula for ending Lebanon's 14-year civil war. A meeting scheduled to put the finishing touches on the agreement was postponed repeatedly as Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal met with a Maronite parliamentary member who stormed out of the meeting a day earlier, conference sources said. George Saadeh, who heads the right-wing Falangist Party, left the committee meeting accusing the Muslims of making "crippling demands." He did not say what the demands were, but stressed in a note sent to the press centre "they affect intrinsic issues" and "cannot be accepted under any circumstances."

Conference sources said that a 17-member committee of legislators had reached preliminary agreement on a "national reconciliation charter" under Arab League auspices. The committee, headed by Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini, a Shi'ite, was expected to reconvene Friday to put the finishing touches to the reported agreement. Aoun declared Thursday in Beirut that the deliberations by the 63 Lebanese legislators — 33 Christians and 30 Muslims — were irrelevant. Referring to 40,000 Syrian troops deployed in three-quarters of Lebanon, he declared: "We cannot rebuild our country under the shadow of an occupying force." Beirut's Al Safir daily said Aoun's remarks amounted to a "public and direct threat" to Christian legislators in Taif against making major political concessions without guarantees of a swift Syrian pullout. "Aoun's threats sent shivers down the spines of some Christian parliamentarians in Taif," the daily said. But it also quoted "well-informed Arab sources" as saying that Arab League mediators and most of the Lebanese lawmakers "regard Aoun's threats as a summer cloud that will pass when the Taif talks culminate in a final accord on reforms."

## Did 'Friday 13th virus' hit Jordan?

By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Computer users in Jordan were nervously awaiting the stroke of midnight Friday for what could perhaps be one of the most devastating blows — for, 00:01 Friday, Oct. 13, was the time when a computer virus was supposed to be triggered to go on a rampage and destroy irreplaceable data. By Friday evening, there was no report of the virus "surfacing" in any of the computers in use in Amman, but experts noted that it was a holiday for most and therefore it was difficult to determine. A computer virus is a rogue programme that is smuggled into a disc or into another programme. Once released, the virus copies itself at a virulent rate, viciously eating up a computer's processing capability and destroying stored information. For the layman, it would be the equivalent of mixing index cards in a library so books would be impossible to locate. Since March, a dozen versions have been found of a virus that is programmed to do its "dirty work" at midnight Friday; but this Friday had an additional significance — it was the 13th, a date considered unlucky or inauspicious and always associated with the supernatural. However, there is nothing supernatural about the computer virus, widely known as "datacrine," said a computer dealer in Amman. "It is manmade, and aimed to destroy hours and hours of painstaking work." How do users get this "communicable incommunicable disease"? The virus moves into a computer through a floppy disc, telephone link or network, according to a local engineer who services equipment manufactured by the U.S.-based International Business Machines (IBM). "You can also get it through interchanged used floppy discs which contain the virus," said Nabil Kawwa of General Computer and Electronics Company. "All the IBM dealers have been contacted and warned of the virus," he added. "It is supposed to be triggered on Friday which is somewhat lucky for us since everyone is off and most computers are not in use." Kawwa told the Jordan Times Friday. He cautioned that depending "on how mean the virus is" it could even begin scrambling data, turning it into "electronic rubbish" after Friday the 13th. "Datacrine" is designed to enter IBM equipment or IBM-compatible computers which are widely used in hotels and banks in the country and are popular among personal users. If it is triggered, the words "Datacrine entered March 1 1989" will flash on the screen and within seconds the virus will destroy data and instructions stored in memory on the computer's hard disc. Computer experts in Jordan as well as elsewhere are split on how dangerous the virus really is. "It is dangerous for us because we get many of our programmes from outside which could be infected," said the chief executive of another computer firm who suspects he might have been infected by a virus three weeks back. "We were doing a programme for a customer and suddenly we were unable to continue because the hard disc, which should have had over 14 million bytes of memory, ran out of memory." "There was now way for me to use some of the programmes on the same hard disc and to make an attempt at saving the situation," he said. "I had to start from scratch after cleaning the hard disc of all data." He pointed out that since many users in Jordan use and copy other users' discs, it will be difficult to determine the extent of such virus infections in the Kingdom. Another expert user said, "I definitely was infected by a virus two weeks ago." (Continued on page 3)

## Goods trains said moving into Armenia, Georgia

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Freight trains have resumed carrying scarce food and fuel into Armenia, ending a protracted blockade imposed by the neighbouring republic Azerbaijan, the Soviet rail minister said Friday. Nikolai Konarev told the Communist Party daily Pravda that the movement of goods, halted by Azerbaijani workers in August, was "changing for the better." Referring to operations Wednesday night, he said: "All types of trains, including some carrying oil products and food, moved unhindered from Azerbaijan to Armenia and Georgia." A journalist at Armenian Television in Yerevan told Reuters

that fuel was still in short supply. "Trains are starting to get through now and some are bringing in fuel but there is still not enough," he said. The official TASS news agency reported Thursday that rail traffic had resumed in the Transcaucasus region. Two similar reports this month proved unfounded, with the blockade remaining in place and only consignments of rotten food getting through. The blockade was imposed to pressure Armenians into dropping their claim to the disputed Azerbaijani enclave Nagorno-Karabakh and was extended to Georgia last month when nationalist groups there refused

to support Azerbaijani activists. Pravda quoted railway officials in the region as saying prompt unloading of freight cars was vital. Officials in Armenia were unavailable to comment on whether goods were reaching their destination. Azerbaijanis, who describe the blockade as an embargo, have threatened to pursue their action until Armenians cease "interfering in their internal affairs" over Nagorno-Karabakh. According to official sources more than 120 people have died in the region during 19 months of violence over the issue. Soviet Interior Ministry troops sent to Nagorno-Karabakh to

maintain peace between the two communities have killed two people in incidents this week. Local authorities in the territory, populated mainly by Armenians but administered by Azerbaijan for more than 60 years, have repeatedly asked to be reassigned to Armenia. The Kremlin has ruled out any border changes and last January placed the area under the control of a Moscow-appointed committee. In Georgia, activists said a mass meeting in the capital, Tbilisi, drew thousands Wednesday night to support calls for Georgian independence and against the Soviet draft.



## Cyprus jails five for plot to kill Aoun

NICOSIA (AP) — Five Lebanese who confessed they planned to kill army chief Michel Aoun were each jailed for eight years Friday.

A sixth man who officials said suffers from psychological problems was sentenced to five years in prison.

All pleaded guilty to illegal possession of weapons, including two Soviet-designed SA-7 anti-aircraft missiles with which they planned to shoot down a helicopter carrying Aoun.

The charge carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

All the defendants smiled and chatted among themselves and with their Cypriot attorney, clearly relieved at the lenient sentence.

"We were ready to die for our cause so a few years in jail is nothing," said Imad Salman Al Khafaji, 27, the group's apparent leader.

The other defendants are Emil Alamedine Ghazali, 27, a money changer; Tewfic Wadi Al Shaar, 27, unemployed; Iris Jamal Jaber, 27, a video-shop employee; Rouston Majid Serhan, 29, a restaurant owner, and Wadih Selim Salameh, 27, a sailor.

The men were taken away in handcuffs. They jabbed "V-for-victory" signs with their fingers as they were driven to Nicosia's central prison by armed police officers.

Soon after the six were arrested May 26-28, a Lebanese faction calling itself the March 14 organisation claimed the men were its members and warned the Cyprus government not to punish them harshly.

"If it does, we shall be compelled to deal with the republic of Cyprus as an adversary party in the current conflict in Lebanon," the group said.

The group is named after the day when shellfire killed more than 40 people in west Beirut, among the heaviest single-day tolls in the six-month battle between Aoun and Syrian troops and their allies that ended Sept. 22 when an Arab League-brokered ceasefire took effect.

The defendants were believed to comprise Muslims and leftist Greek Orthodox, a Christian sect that is largely opposed to Lebanon's Maronites.

Cypriot authorities earlier this week dropped a charge of conspiracy to assassinate, which carries a maximum sentence of 14 years, and substituted the charge of illegal weapons possession because it carried a heavier sentence on conviction.

The president of the three-member court, Frixos Nicolaides, said that "the court was very seriously concerned about the threat sentence under the circumstances."

"In the present case, we cannot but take into account that all the accused are young persons, under 30 years old, and have grown up under anomalous conditions in the chaos created by the civil war in their country."

He said the court also took into consideration "the personality of the accused and the circumstances which led them to the commission of the crime."

The group was rounded up in the south coast port of Larnaca. Their arms cache also included five AK-47 assault rifles, 500 rounds of ammunition and 38 grenades.

State prosecutor Rallis Gavrielides told the court earlier the men confessed that they came to Cyprus from Lebanon in May to shoot down Aoun's helicopter.

The Christian leader had been scheduled to fly to the island to catch a plane for Morocco to attend an Arab summit conference on Lebanon. But he cancelled the trip.

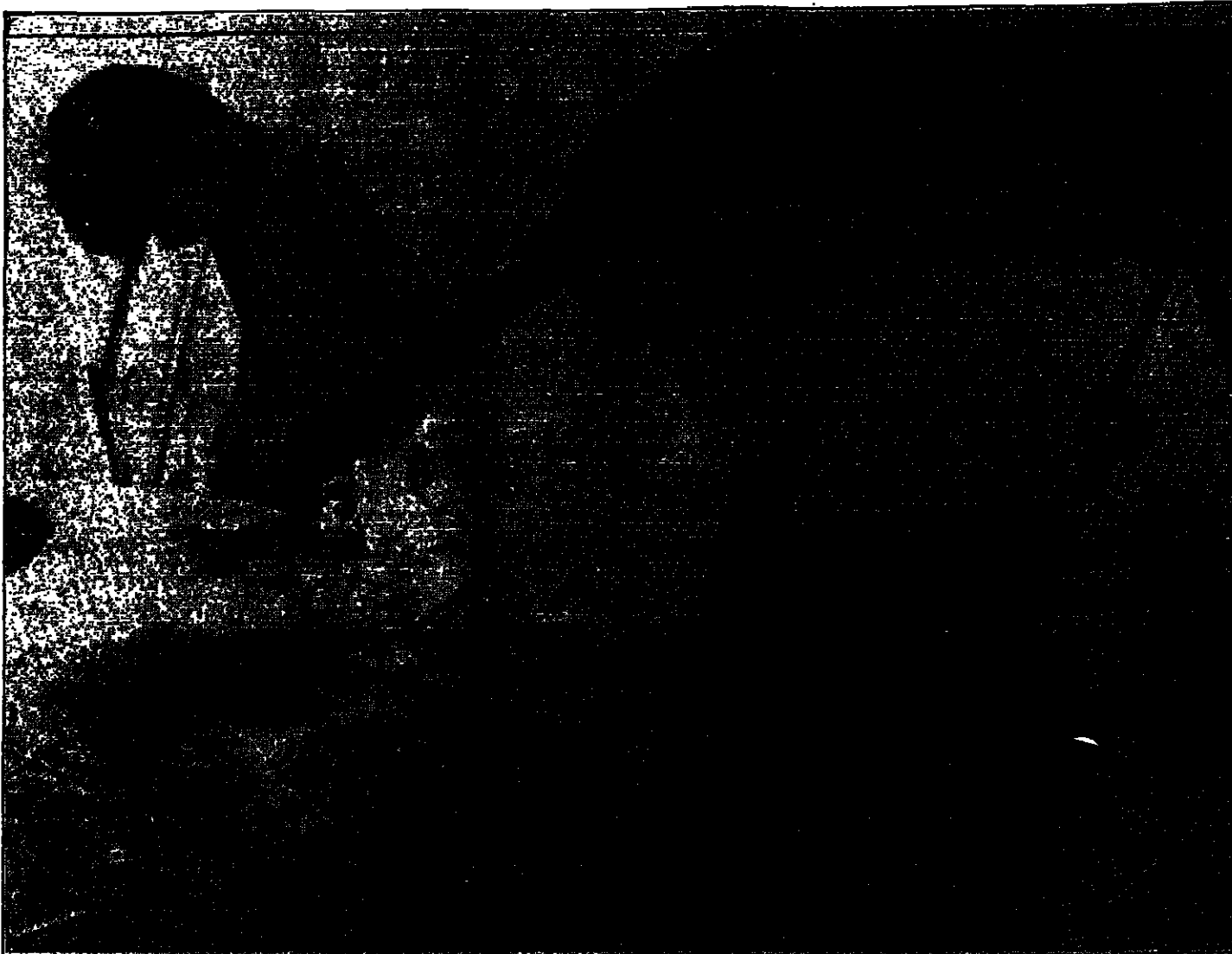
Defence lawyer Patrikios Pavlou said the six defendants "believed they were serving a sacred cause."

Nicolaides said: "We do not doubt that the accused consider themselves patriots and their act a patriotic duty."

But the court in implementing the law and in trying crimes committed on the soil of the republic of Cyprus does not concern itself with politics.

"We must say that the motives, no matter how exalted, do not excuse violation of the law."

Five of the six were also sentenced to one year's imprisonment for entering Cyprus illegally.



RELIC OF WAR... Joseph, aged 12, scavenges in a car wrecked by artillery fire during the fierce round of fighting in Beirut that ended on September 22 with an Arab-sponsored ceasefire.

## U.N. appeals for food aid to African states

NAIROBI (AP) — A U.N. agency Friday appealed for 300,000 tonnes of emergency food aid for northern Ethiopia, where it said crop failures could threaten as many as two million people with starvation.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) also urged international donors to pledge additional relief food to the war-torn nations of Mozambique, which has received only a quarter of its 1989-90 food needs, and Sudan.

About 500,000 people already are receiving emergency food relief in the northernmost Ethiopian provinces of Eritrea and Tigraya, but severe crop failures could push that number up to two million by mid-1990, the FAO said in its quarterly report on Sub-Saharan Africa.

"Unless immediate action is taken by the international community to allocate food aid and preposition relief stocks in the affected areas, human suffering and death from starvation may occur," said the report.

Ethiopia suffers regional food shortages almost annually and in 1984-85 experienced a devastating nationwide drought and famine that killed an estimated one million people.

In Mozambique, FAO urged donors to step up food pledges and the delivery of food already promised.

The international community has pledged only half of the 755,000 tonnes of food needed for 1989-90 and only 218,000 tonnes have been delivered, said the organisation.

International aid also is needed to support the distribution of relief supplies which continues to be hampered by civil war, and a dilapidated road and railway network, said FAO.

## U.S.-Saudi arms deal proceeding in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government has moved ahead in Congress on a planned sale of 315 tanks to Saudi Arabia — with little apparent opposition from Israel's supporters.

The administration informally notified Congress of the intended purchase by the kingdom, beginning a 30-day period in which Congress can kill the deal if majorities in the Senate and the House of Representatives oppose it.

The Saudis would receive the M1A2 tanks beginning in the mid-1990s, about the same time the U.S. army would get the tanks. Israel has a comparable tank, the Merkava.

To improve the chances for congressional approval, the administration of President George Bush agreed not to equip the Saudi tanks with plates of uranium armour, a much denser metal than steel.

The deal, including support and training equipment, is worth an estimated \$3 billion.

The purchase of U.S. tanks to replace 15-year-old and largely inoperable French tanks is considered a test of congressional sentiment for Saudi Arabia's expected request next year to buy U.S. jet fighters.

It was not immediately clear where the tanks would be based. If some are deployed at the Tabuk military base, they would be only 190 kilometres from Israel. Others may be based near Kuwait and still others at an armoured training school near Mecca.

In a separate deal, Israel is to receive \$100 million for the prepositioning of U.S. military equipment. The arms presumably would be used in the event of a Mideast war that threatened U.S. security.

Asked why Israel's supporters had not launched a fight against the Saudi tank sale, one military expert said the administration consulted in advance with members of Congress and "an effort is under way to avoid a confrontation."

"Besides, the tanks are a ground system, having a marginal effect on Israel's security," said the non-governmental expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Administration officials have stressed in recent weeks the U.S. commitment to make sure Israel maintains a qualitative edge over Arab armed forces.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler declined to discuss the Saudi tank deal except to say Congress had been informally notified of the administration's intention.

The purchase was designed initially as a good-will gesture for a visit by King Fahd. But twice this summer the Saudi monarch cancelled trips to Washington with the explanation that his government was busily engaged in trying to arrange a ceasefire in Lebanon.

Congress over the years has turned back several U.S. arms sales to Arab countries.

## Polisario attacks raise question of who is arming guerrillas

By Jonathan Clayton  
Reuters

RABAT — A sudden upsurge of fierce fighting in the Western Sahara has raised the question of who is arming Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence for the former Spanish colony.

Two major battles in five days have also highlighted growing anger at King Hassan's reluctance to open a dialogue with the guerrilla movement after a string of concessions from both Polisario and its main backer, Algeria.

Morocco said its troops killed 101 Polisario guerrillas and lost 11 dead and 10 wounded during a battle Wednesday. Polisario said 190 Moroccan were killed and 150 wounded during the clash in which the guerrillas fielded an estimated 1,000 men.

On Saturday, Morocco said 14 soldiers, including a colonel, were killed when Polisario attacked Moroccan defences near the Mauritanian border. Some 80 Polisario were reported dead or wounded.

The clashes signalled the end of a 12-month lull in the desert war during which Polisario proclaimed a unilateral truce to try and hasten a political settlement.

Algeria restored diplomatic relations with Morocco in May 1988, dropping a previous insistence that the conflict first be resolved.

In return, King Hassan met Polisario in January for the first direct talks in 13 years of combat, but a second meeting has never occurred despite frequent rumours it was imminent.

"He (the king) has so clearly been playing for time. I think the Algerians have been angry with him for some time and are prepared to let Polisario have a free hand," one diplomat said.

After Saturday's attack, King Hassan said he was calling off a planned second meeting with the guerrillas.

But many political analysts and diplomats were sceptical, saying the Moroccan monarch was trying to score diplomatic points ahead of an annual vote on the conflict in the United Nations which usually urges direct peace talks.

In February, Polisario's traditional supporters Algeria and Libya signed a regional cooperation pact with Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia.

The founding treaty of the Arab Maghreb Union — intended as a North African version of Western Europe's Common Market — forbade any member state to harbour groups hostile to another member.

Analysts said it spelled the end of Polisario as a major force in the region, but the guerrillas have continued to operate in the thin stretch of land between the Mauritania and Algerian borders and Moroccan defence lines.

Moroccan troops occupy four-fifths of the barren territory half the size of France. Administrative control was ceded to Morocco by Spain in 1976 but the question of sovereignty was never addressed.

Military analysts say they do not believe Algeria would risk hard-won regional rapprochement by resuming arm supplies to the guerrillas, but say Polisario have large stockpiles of weapons and ammunition.

According to sources close to the government in Rabat, the latest attacks came from Mauritania which is unable to police effectively its long frontier.

Polisario deny this and say they were launched from "liberated Western Sahara."

Analysts say the conflict could lead to strained relations between Morocco and Mauritania if King Hassan decides to allow his army to pursue Polisario across the border claiming he is upholding the spirit of the Arab Maghreb Union treaty.

Both sides have in principle accepted a U.N. plan to hold a self-determination referendum in the region but little progress has been made towards organising the vote.

## Arafat under pressure for tougher position

BAGHDAD (AP) — Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat will be under pressure from other Palestinian leaders meeting here this week to take a tougher stance on efforts to bring Palestinians and Israelis together for peace talks, according to Palestinian sources.

They said the Central Council, due to start a series of meetings here Sunday, will put pressure on Arafat to reject any attempt to exclude the PLO from peace talks with Israel.

A member of the council told the Associated Press that the meeting was called by hardliners to stop Arafat from agreeing to what they see as Egyptian and American efforts to push forward a Middle East peace process possibly without direct PLO involvement.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has suggested a 10-point plan building on the Israeli proposals for elections in the occupied territories as the first step towards limited self rule. The Egyptian plan is built around the land for peace formula.

"We haven't endorsed the so-called Mubarak plan and we will never accept a plan of full PLO participation in any peace process," said the senior Central Council member, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the largest PLO factions after Arafat's own Fatah, have rejected Mubarak's proposals.

The Likud faction of the Israeli government rejected the proposal. But in an attempt to keep them alive, the United States has been working to overcome obstacles to starting Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

PLO officials here said the Central Council, composed of about 80 representatives of different Palestinian factions, will study the recent developments in the Middle East peace process.

The Central Council acts as an intermediary between the PLO's Executive Committee and the Palestine National Council (PNC).

In Tunis, Tunisia, Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the 15-man Executive Committee, said Wednesday that any delegation to talks with Israel must be formed by the PLO, and the agenda must be open and free of preconditions.

Arafat Tuesday was reported to have sent a message to Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip telling them that "only the PLO has the right to form a Palestinian delegation."

Palestinians say Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who proposed the election plan, is not serious about entering peace negotiations and was stalling in order to crush the 22-month-old uprising in the occupied territories.

The Central Council, which makes policy recommendations to the 450-member PNC, also is expected to discuss means of escalating the uprising, the sources said.

## Garang claims more support for peace moves

HARARE (AP) — Sudan rebel leader John Garang has said he has won support from six African leaders for his peace proposals to end a six-year civil war at home.

Garang, head of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), said however that none of the heads of state would grant his movement diplomatic status.

Garang, interviewed by the Zimbabwe Inter-African News Agency in the Zimbabwe capital of Harare, for the past three weeks has been visiting African capitals seeking support for his peace efforts.

The SPLA comprising guerrillas from the mainly animist and Christian south, has been fighting against the Muslim-dominated government of the north for greater regional autonomy.

Garang was received on his latest mission by all heads of the so-called Frontline States, a regional bloc that spearheads African efforts to end South Africa's racial policy of apartheid.

They are Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"Without exception all leaders approved the stand of the SPLA — our respect of the Sudan's unity and territorial integrity," Garang told the news agency.

"The leaders will do what they can diplomatically to support our peace programme."

The SPLA's plan includes the formation of a broad-based government, creation of a new army comprising existing troops and the guerrillas, the convening of a constitutional conference and the holding of general elections.

Garang, who is expected to leave Harare before the weekend, said he hoped the frontline leaders could persuade military leader Omar Hassan Al-Bashir to accept the SPLA's proposals.

Bashir seized power June 30 in a military coup, ousting Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's government and effectively stalling peace talks with the rebels.

## Palestinian statehood posters in U.S. metro

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) has contracted with the Washington, D.C., metro-rail transportation system to buy advertising space to display posters advocating Palestinian statehood.

Metro-rail is the subway system that serves Washington, D.C., suburban Virginia and Maryland.

Abdeen Jabara, president of the ADC told reporters at the National Press Club Wednesday that the posters will be placed in the metro-rail cars on Oct. 16.

One poster portrays Palestinian youths carrying the Palestinian flag superimposed over an American eagle with the caption, "Palestine-Israel, Two Peoples — Two States." Both posters are printed in green, black, white and red ink — the colours of the Palestinian flag.

Both posters are "designed to promote a peaceful resolution to the conflict by advocating Palestinian independence," Jabara said.

One poster "reflects a positive formula for the resolution to the conflict between Israel and Palestinians and the other poster reminds Americans that 'the Palestinian uprising has much in common with the American struggle against British rule.'"

Two hundred and sixty posters will be displayed in half of the 700 cars operating on the metro-rail system in the Washington, D.C., and suburban Virginia and Maryland.

An estimated 600,000 people a day ride the metro system, according to Jabara.

The ADC expects that "every one of those 600,000 people will be exposed to the posters on at least one occasion and maybe more than that," Jabara said.

Asked about the purpose of the campaign, Jabara said, "We do not think that the question of Palestinian sovereignty is a matter of public relations. We do believe there is a considerable gap between where the American people stand on Palestinian rights and where the U.S. Congress stands." Jabara cited American public opinion polls taken since the beginning of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza that indicate "a pronounced shift of opinion in support of Palestinian rights."

The U.S. Congress seems to be out of tune with the American public on this issue," he added.

"We are asking for reaction, not merely a belief or a feeling. We want people to do something... If we get them to call their congressman we'll be happy," Jabara said.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel. 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:30	Educational programme
18:00	News summary
18:05	Message from Iraq
18:25	A play by Shakespeare
19:10	Local programme
19:40	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme review
21:40	Consumer's Guide
22:25	Local programme
23:00	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Anges Et Loups
19:00	News in French
19:15	Documentary
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Natural Phenomena
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	APU — Golden Kite World Song Festival
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film "Mick: A True Story of Rocky Deans"
PRAYER TIMES	
04:17	Fajr
05:34	Sunrise (Dhuha)
11:22	Dhuhr
14:37	Asr
17:10	Maghreb

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR			
wind and calm sea.			
CHURCHES		USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetlik, Tel. 810740		NIGHT DUTY	
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785		AMMAN:	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590, Church of the Annunciation Tel. 631400		Dr. Wa'el Khatib	
De la Sade Church Tel. 661757		Dr. Awwar Agrabawi	
Terrasanta Church Tel. 623666		Dr. Fakher Bilal	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541		Dr. Hani Haddadin	
Anglican Church Tel. 625363, Tel. 628543		Firas pharmacy	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331		Fardous pharmacy	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261		Al Asema pharmacy	
St. Egidius Church Tel. 771751		Al Solam pharmacy	
Amman International Church Tel. 683236		Yacoub pharmacy	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295		Shamsi pharmacy	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932		Dr. Ali Al Omari	
WEATHER		Dr. Al Shura pharmacy	
It will be partly cloudy and relatively cold with expected scattered showers of rain in the northern and central regions. Winds will be westerly moderate freshening at times. In Aqaba, it will be dusty with northerly moderate		Electric Power	

Other Flights (Terminal 2)		MARKET PRICES	
12:00	Baghdad (IA)	Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
12:30	Cairo (MS)	Apple (golden)	420 / 380
13:30	Kuwait (KU)	Apple (red)	550 / 500
13:45	Tripoli (LN)	Banana	400 / 350
14:25	Riyadh (RU)	Banana (Mideast)	350 / 300
14:55	Rome (AZ)	Beans	470 / 400
19:15	Dubai, Damascus (EK)	Cabbage	160 / 120
23:00	Paris, Damascus (AF)	Carrot	320 / 280
DEPARTURES		Cauliflower	230 / 180
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)		Corn	170 / 140
07:00	Amman (RJ)	Cucumbers (large)	220 / 180
08:00	Damascus (RJ)	Cucumbers (small)	320 / 280
08:45	Vienam, Chicago (RJ)	Dates	400 / 350
11:10	Frankfurt (add.) (RJ)	Eggplant	220 / 180
11:15	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)	Garlic	900 / 800
12:00	Larnaca, Geneva, Madrid (RJ)	Grapes (large)	350 / 300
09:15	Agadir (RJ)	Grapes (small)	350 / 300
09:20	London (RJ)	Guava	400 / 350
12:15	Jerusalem (RJ)	Lemon	200 / 160
12:30	Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)	Macrow (large)	150 / 120
12:45	Cairo (RJ)	Macrow (small)	240 / 180
13:00	Kuwait (RJ)	Onion	520 / 450
13:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)	Onion (dry)	260 / 220
15:45	Kuwait (RJ)	Pepper (hot)	160 / 120
16:45	Cairo (RJ)	Pepper (sweet)	170 / 130
18:25	Copacabana, Frankfurt (RJ)	Potatoes	300 / 250
19:40	Tripoli (RJ)	Spinach	250 / 200
21:30	Frankfurt (add.) (RJ)	Sweet Melon	300 / 250
Other Flights (Terminal 2)		Tomatoes	140 / 100
08:15	Beirut (ME)	Water Melon	150 / 100
13:00	Baghdad (IA)		
13:45	Cairo (MS)		
14:25	Riyadh (RU)		
14:55	Kuwait (KU)		
15:45	Rome (AZ)		
19:15	Dubai, Damascus (EK)		
23:00	Paris, Damascus (AF)		



## ELECTIONS '89

By Narmeen Murad

Third District candidate Taber Al Maari describes the Nov. 8 elections as "a real national test for all of us; a test of our ability to absorb the lessons of the past and our awareness of the sensitivity of the delicate stage which our country is going through now, the changes regionally and internationally, and the availability of will and insistence of build the homeland of tomorrow, indestructible, free and prosperous." In his elections campaign, Maari calls for reducing the mandatory military service period from two years to one year dedicated to exercises.

Voters who arrived at Sukaina School in the Third District to collect their voting cards were faced by officers who were talking a one-hour lunch break. Although the voters agreed with the officers that they deserve a lunch break, they argued that it was never announced to the public. The situation turned almost violent. Who was? The officers took their lunch break but without eating because they had lost their appetite anyway.

Main volunteers working for candidates in districts where municipal elections were held during this past year say one of the many problems they face is that many voters insist that they have already voted.

Mamoudh Abu Hassan of the Third District calls for the "maintenance of the Jordanian economy as a free and open economy interacting with the outside world and to achieve a real economic growth by fighting inflation and unemployment."

Dam Al Iz Jadalsh Al Sharayem, of the Fifth District, feels that women's movements in Jordan "are not giving the proper attention to village women although these women are thirsty for knowledge."

Volunteers working for Christian candidates in the Third District are asking the press to clarify that all Muslims and Christians can also vote for a Christian candidate. According to these volunteers, some Muslims in the Third District, which has three Muslim seats, one Christian seat and one Christian seat, think that they can only vote for other Muslims.

Wadi Musa, within the Governorate of Ma'an, is sending three candidates to seek one of the three seats in the governorate. The number of voters in Wadi Musa and the surrounding villages is just around 4,500. Unless two of the candidates pull out from the race, the chances that Wadi Musa would be able to elect one of its own men to parliament is very slim. At the moment, notables from Wadi Musa and its villages are lobbying hard to reach a compromise which would convince two to withdraw.

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**REGENT SEND CONDOLENCES TO UAE:** His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday delegated Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zeid, and Mr. Ibrahim Izzeddin, minister of state for cabinet affairs to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to take part in the funeral of Sheikh Hamdan Ibn Mohammad Al Nahayyan. The late Sheikh Hamdan was a member of the ruling family in the UAE and had served as deputy prime minister. The envoys were dispatched to convey the condolences of the Jordanian government and the people to the UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayyan and the UAE people. Prince Hassan also sent a cable of condolences to Sheikh Zayed expressing his deep grief over the death of Sheikh Hamdan and wishing Sheikh Zayed continued health and more prosperity for the UAE people. (Petra)

**REGENT CONGRATULATES S. YEMEN:** His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has cabled congratulations to South Yemeni President Haydar Abu Bakr Al Attas on his country's National Day anniversary. In his cable, the Crown Prince wished the South Yemen leader good health and the people continued progress and prosperity. (Petra)

**JORDAN TO ATTEND AFRO-ASIAN TALKS:** Ministry of Water and Irrigation's secretary general Mutaz Al Bilbeisi has left for Tokyo to take part in a regional Afro-Asian conference on irrigation and sanitation which opens in the Japanese capital on Oct. 15. Bilbeisi, who is accompanied by Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hani will also examine research work conducted in Japan on the use of solar energy for the desalination of sea water and for the exploitation of underground water for drinking and irrigation purposes. In addition, the two officials will tour a number of areas where treated water from wastewater treatment plants is being used for irrigation. The conference is expected to last 11 days.

**STRATEGY FOR THE ARAB CHILD:** A number of Arab experts on maternal and child care will meet in Baghdad Saturday to draw up the strategy for the Arab child until the year 2000. Participants will discuss issues dealing with child education, culture, psychological trends and the role of the family in developing the child's capacities. (Petra)

**NHF TO ATTEND MEETING IN IRAQ:** The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) will take part in a scientific seminar which will be held in Iraq under the slogan "towards a new strategy for the care of the child." The meeting will be held in the course of activities to mark the Arab and International Child Day. According to a NHF spokesman, the seminar is expected to dwell on topics related to child health, education, and other services. Isam Zawawi, director of the NHF's Social Development Programme will represent the foundation at the meeting which starts Saturday. (Petra)

**AMIN INSPECTS VOTING CENTRES:** Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Amin Friday undertook an inspection tour of the second district centres where voting cards are delivered. (Petra)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

## EXHIBITIONS

- \* An exhibition marking the 1st centennial of the Eiffel Tower displaying photographs, drawings and pictures demonstrating the tower in all its aspects at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Boud at Alfa Art Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition entitled "Multiples Regards" displaying lithographs of Picasso, Matisse, Miro, Braque, Cocteau and Le Corbusier, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by Foad Muni and 'Ammar Khammash at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.

## FILMS

- \* An Italian film entitled "Nell' Anno del Signore" at Haya Arts Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- \* A German film entitled "Nordsee Ist Nordsee" (North Sea — A Murderer's Sea), English subtitled, at the Gortie Institute — 8:00 p.m.

## Jordan celebrates anniversary of Prophet Mohammad's birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, along with the Islamic World, Thursday celebrated the anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday with religious ceremonies around the country.

Several gatherings were held, Islamic book exhibitions organised and lectures were given on the holy occasion.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs from the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries gathered at Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian government for a joint celebration at Al Azhar Mosque to mark the occasion.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, who took part in the Cairo celebration, said that it has been decided that the anniversary will be celebrated each year in one of the ACC capitals in implementa-

tion of a decision reached by the ministers of Awqaf of the four ACC states.

Apart from the ministers, leading Islamic scholars from the four ACC countries and officials took part in the celebrations.

The Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary was marked with a public holiday in Jordan, and His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, received cables of good wishes from Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and heads of various private and public organisations in the Kingdom. Cables also came from heads of state of Islamic nations underlining their adherence to the Islamic faith and paying tribute to the Palestinian people's continued struggle against the Israeli occupation. As part of the Kingdom's

celebrations of the holy occasion, Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali attended a religious play held at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman.

The play, by the Yarmouk University's Fine Arts Department, reflects the Arab and Islamic identity and culture.

## King sends message to Sharif Zeid

His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker thanking him for his congratulatory cable on the occasion of Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary.

In his cable the King conveyed to ministers and the Jordanian people his sincere wishes and appreciation.

## Arabiya to head JTV News Department

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali has appointed Mr. Abdul Halim Arabiyat as director of the news department at Jordan Television, succeeding Mr. Ibrahim Shalhadeh who was recently made director of Radio Jordan.

Arabiya is a veteran employee

at Jordan Television, who began his service there in 1968.

Educated at Cairo and Ohio universities, Arabiyat has represented Jordan at several conferences discussing matters related to radio and television work.

Shalhadeh, for his part, had joined the information service in

1958, assuming different posts and representing Jordan at the meetings of the International and Arab broadcasting unions.

Before assuming the post of director of the news department at Jordan Television, Shalhadeh was in charge of news exchange programmes among world radio and broadcasting stations.

## Jordan to attend ABU talks in Tunis

TUNIS (J.T.) — Jordan is taking part in a three-day meeting in Tunis organised by the Arab Broadcasting Union (ABU) to discuss promoting news exchanges among the Arab League countries and to make better use of the Arab satellite.

Experts in radio and television broadcasting in the Arab World are discussing means of facilitat-

ing the flow of news programmes among Arab countries and plans for increasing the employment of the Arab satellite to achieve this goal, starting from the beginning of the coming year.

Among the initial recommendations taken at the start of the meeting were those dealing with cooperation in sports events, technical cooperation and coop-

eration in coverage of world events.

Apart from Arab countries, the meeting is being attended by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALESCO) and a West German institution involved in information matters.

## Universities to accept students from vocational schools — Badran

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Adnan Badran said in a statement here that Jordanian universities will be open for vocational training students who complete courses at vocational schools as of the beginning of the coming academic year.

The Ministries of Education and Higher Education are now implementing a policy by which students with poor grades will be turned over to the vocational training institutes in the Kingdom, but this does not deny them the right to follow up higher vocational training at university level afterwards once the door is open in that direction, the minister stated in an interview with the Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper.

"Indeed, students with vocational training stand a better chance than the graduates of academic courses in terms of employment after graduation," the minister noted.

According to a new plan adopted by the Ministry of Education to develop general education at schools in Jordan, all students will be required to take a subject called general knowledge at the rate of 11 hours a week and this will cover Arabic, English, computer, mathematics, sciences, and national education, regardless of their specialisations and streams, the minister noted.

He said through this system the door will be open for all students to take up any specialised training course after secondary education to qualify them for jobs much



Adnan Badran

needed in the local market.

Referring to the general education situation in the Kingdom, the minister noted, 96 per cent of the total number of students in the Kingdom are aged 6-15 and are currently in the compulsory stage.

He said that education has expanded at schools in the urban, and rural areas of Jordan offering academic as well as commercial, industrial, hotel management, nursing and agricultural courses.

Nearly 38 per cent of the total number of students are in the secondary education, which means more are expected to seek higher education in the coming years, the minister noted.

He said that apart from the four universities, the country has a total of 57 community colleges which can absorb a large part of the school graduates and offer training in a variety of specialisations.

But the minister noted, university and community college graduates are finding less and less opportunities in employment, hence "the need is greater than ever before for vocational training to help take the country into the 21st century."

Badran noted that the Ministry of Education is entrusted with the task of providing basic education at the compulsory level and at eradicating illiteracy by all possible means.

He said that illiteracy now stands at the rate of 28 per cent in Jordan, but through the new educational development plan it is hoped that illiteracy will be eradicated in Jordan through at least elementary education.

With reference to schools, the minister said, at present there are 40,000 teachers who are now sufficient for the education process at all its levels.

At the start of the 1989-1990 scholastic year some schools suffered from the lack of sufficient teachers in a number of specialisations, but the problem has now been solved.

Another problem which the ministry has successfully overcome is the insufficient number of school textbooks, the minister added.

Referring to recent changes in the school weekends, Badran said that one shift schools are now applying the two-day weekend, thus opening the door for schools to organise extra curricular activities and enabling teachers to conduct personal businesses.

## Regional conference at University of Jordan to discuss use of laser

AMMAN (J.T.) — A conference on the use of laser will open Saturday at the University of Jordan under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The six-day meeting will discuss scientific matter of concern to physicists, chemists, biologists, and those involved in medicine,

engineering and industry, according to a university spokesman.

He said that delegates from Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Libya, Algeria and Tunisia in addition to Jordan will take part in the meeting and will discuss several working papers on the subject.

The spokesman said that delegates from the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, France, the Soviet Union, Pakistan, India and Japan will also attend.

The University of Jordan, the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Mu'ta University and Yarmouk University will send delegates to the meeting.

## 2 killed, 14 hurt in road accidents

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two persons were killed and four others were injured, two of them seriously in a car accident along the desert highways near the town of Qatranah in southern Jordan.

According to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily the accidents involved a Saudi Arabian oil tanker truck and a small private car travelling in opposite directions. It said that the injured were

transported to the King Hussein Medical Centre by an army helicopter.

Another report in Al Ra'i daily said that 10 people were injured Thursday in a road accident on the Amman-Jerash Highway.

It said that the accident again involved two cars travelling in opposite directions.

The traffic department in Am-

man reported the death of 153 people and the injury of 283 others in the last week of September as a result of road accidents in the Kingdom.

It said that the number of accidents was less by four compared with the previous week, but the accidents caused a 25 per cent increase in the number of deaths and three per cent in the number of injuries.

## King pays tribute to Canadian position

(Continued from page 1)

"Parliamentary elections, decentralisation and devolution of powers to regional authorities as well as a better targeting of resources to alleviate the side effects of adjustment on the lower-income groups are the cornerstones of this strategy," he added.

Canada could contribute to Jordan's efforts through cooperation in joint ventures and technology transfer, he said.

The King, who began a six-day visit to Canada Monday with Her Majesty Queen Noor and senior advisors, held talks with Canadian leaders in the past two days. On Thursday, he visited Toronto and addressed the Canadian Empire Club.

In the speech, the King delved into Jordan's economic situation and outlined the measures that the Kingdom had adopted to address its financial difficulties. "Jordan has begun the implementation of the reform measures as agreed with the IMF (International Monetary Fund) to make the necessary adjustment to its economy," he said. "Such adjustments are not easy or painless," he said, but "Jordan is determined to make the necessary moves entailed in the development of a more self-reliant economy."

He also reviewed the political situation in the Middle East and reaffirmed Jordan's position on the Palestinian problem, Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Queen Noor Thursday visited a children's hospital in Toronto and met with two University of Jordan graduates who are specialising in pediatrics. The Queen's visit to the hospital

stemmed from her interest in a plan to build a similar hospital in Jordan and establish centres with a number of hospitals and medical centres in the world that could contribute to launching such a project. The building of such a hospital in Jordan will fill a vital gap in the treatment of children in Jordan and the Middle East as well.

Thursday evening, Prime Minister of Ontario David Peterson gave a dinner banquet Thursday in honour of Their Majesties King Hussein. Members of the accompanying Jordanian delegation and a number of senior Canadian officials were present.

Peterson earlier paid a courtesy visit to King Hussein at his residence in Toronto expressing the feelings of friendship and respect the Canadian people have towards him and the Jordanian people. King Hussein also received members of the Jordanian community in Canada Thursday at his residence here. They carried welcome posters and delivered a number of speeches expressing affiliation with the homeland and pride in the great achievements the King attained in every respect in Jordan.

## Did computer virus hit?

(Continued from page 1)

"The virus destroyed my data and it blew my executable programmes," he added.

One of the widely-heard advices was repeated by another dealer: "All you have to do is to make a back-up copy of all your files. So, when the virus hits, you are safe. All you have to do is to clean your hard disc and re-copy your files back into it."

Since a good part of the world's personal computers are IBM-compatible, the virus could cause untold damage, and users around the world are pursuing antidotes.

One of such remedies offered by IBM is a "virus scanning programme" which can detect the presence of "Datacrim" in any computer in a matter of minutes. The programme mainly seeks out changes in programming codes that may detect the presence of the virus.

Major hotels and banks in the Kingdom have already taken the precaution. At least two major banks in the country have the anti-virus programme, according to a computer source. The situation is more dangerous to banks since they are internally hooked up with networks. "Imagine if they get infected," asked a computer buff jokingly. "I hope the virus hits a bank which I owe money to."

According to international experts, no anti-virus programme could be foolproof. "The Friday the 13th virus" — better known as the "Columbus Day virus" in the U.S. because it is due to be activated the day after the American national holiday — "is so clever that often the only sign you have that your disk is infected is when you notice you have no space left," a consultant quoted by Reuters said.

## Candidate registration begins today

(Continued from page 1)

## Economy

The economy factor is now embodied, in the minds of the voters, in a national debt which ranges around \$12 billion (commercial and defence) — a per capita debt of around \$4,000 with an annual interest of \$400. Many agree that the situation is the net result of a combination of events and policies which led Jordan to accumulate this debt, but that realisation in itself does not make any difference in "real terms."

A good part of the electorate appreciates that the main factor that led to the accumulation of the debt is the failure on the part of the Arab states to honour their 1979 pledge of financial assistance to Jordan for the next 10 years. Only Saudi Arabia met its obligation in full in the annual pledge of \$1.25 billion to Jordan, but Amman was already implementing development plans based on the assumption that the entire Arab aid would be forthcoming for the next decade. The Kingdom was ensnared in the debt trap when in 1988, the last year of the Arab aid, it became apparent that none of the designated Arab donors was ready or able to fulfil their commitment.

It is understood that most of Jordan's current foreign debt was incurred on account of infrastructure building, but some candidates argue that "the cost of these infrastructure projects exceeded the need for them."

Mismanagement of funds was the one widely factor seen as behind the economic straits Jordan is facing now. "The current economic situation is not a result of scarcity of resources alone. Mismanagement of funds and the lack of a comprehensive outlook and assessment figures high as the cause of the economic problems," said Mamoudh Abu Hassan, a third district candidate and successful businessman, at an open debate held at the Businessmen Association of which he is president.

Abu Hassan also pointed to what he saw as the instability of the economic policies in Jordan since 1973 and especially in the last 14 months, due to the changes in the prime ministers and their policies, as an important contributing factor.

Since 1973, Jordan has had eight governments, headed respectively by Zaid Rifai, Mudar Badran, Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Qassem Al Rimawi, Mudar Badran, Ahmad Obeidat, Zaid Rifai

and now Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ibn-Shaker.

Zaid Rifai's first government was in office at the height of the economic boom the region was enjoying. During this period most of the development and infrastructure plans were drawn up. Mudar Badran, headed his government during an extension of the boom, but which started subsided towards the end of his term.

Abdul Hamid Sharaf arrived with an open minded policy, a high level of education as well as a drive to work and establish reforms, but his untimely death only seven months after he assumed office stopped this movement. Qassem Al Rimawi only stayed in office in an interim government for 40 days while Mudar Badran prepared to become prime minister again. Badran continued his earlier policies but the economic realities had changed by that time and economists were starting to feel the economic burden.

Ahmad Obeidat led a strict government which tried to improve the situation but he remained in power for only one year. Rifai returned to office to continue his "open policies" allowing for an increased number of government loans without prior assurances that they could be repaid.

## West Bank

The West Bank factor took a new turn in that last period as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) demanded an independent political role as the representative of the Palestinian people and supported by the Arab bloc. Jordan took the decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank and allow the PLO to assume its responsibility as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Originally, and after the 1974 Rabat summit, the PLO was established as the representative of the Palestinian people but the high percentage of Palestinians in Jordan and the fact that the West Bank was under Jordanian sovereignty when it was occupied by Israel in 1967, gave Jordan a highlighted political role in setting the Palestinian problem. Jordanians of Palestinian origin had found their Jordanian status comforting and a source of stability in an otherwise turbulent region, while Palestinians in the occupied territories still dealt with the Jordanian dinar as their

national currency.

The decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, coupled with the declining economic situation in Jordan and the decrease in the value of the Jordanian dinar, interacted to create new economic and social realities and fears for the peoples of both banks. The mood of uncertainty which prevailed in the few months after the severing of links as well as the government's decision to announce its debts and follow its announcements with a series of measures aimed at curbing spending and extravagant consumption led to the disturbances in the south in April which fell under a logo of reform and allowing public freedoms.

Many candidates agree that these disturbances, although occurring after the government had adopted a policy aimed at encouraging the participation of public opinion in decisionmaking, speeded up the process and highlighted the need for these elections, especially since the seats allocated to the West Bank in the Lower House had to be rescinded to accommodate the new realities.

As the candidates head for registration today, a distinction will become official over who will enter the race till the end and who has already judged his chances and found that he/she should withdraw.

The overwhelming feeling among voters and candidates is that the number of "new" faces will not be large. A simple reading into the names of the renowned potential candidates indicates that there are 32 ex-ministers and 24 ex-parliament members in the running. The number of professionals running in the elections are almost 200 — lawyers, doctors, engineers, pharmacists, journalists, contractors and workers.

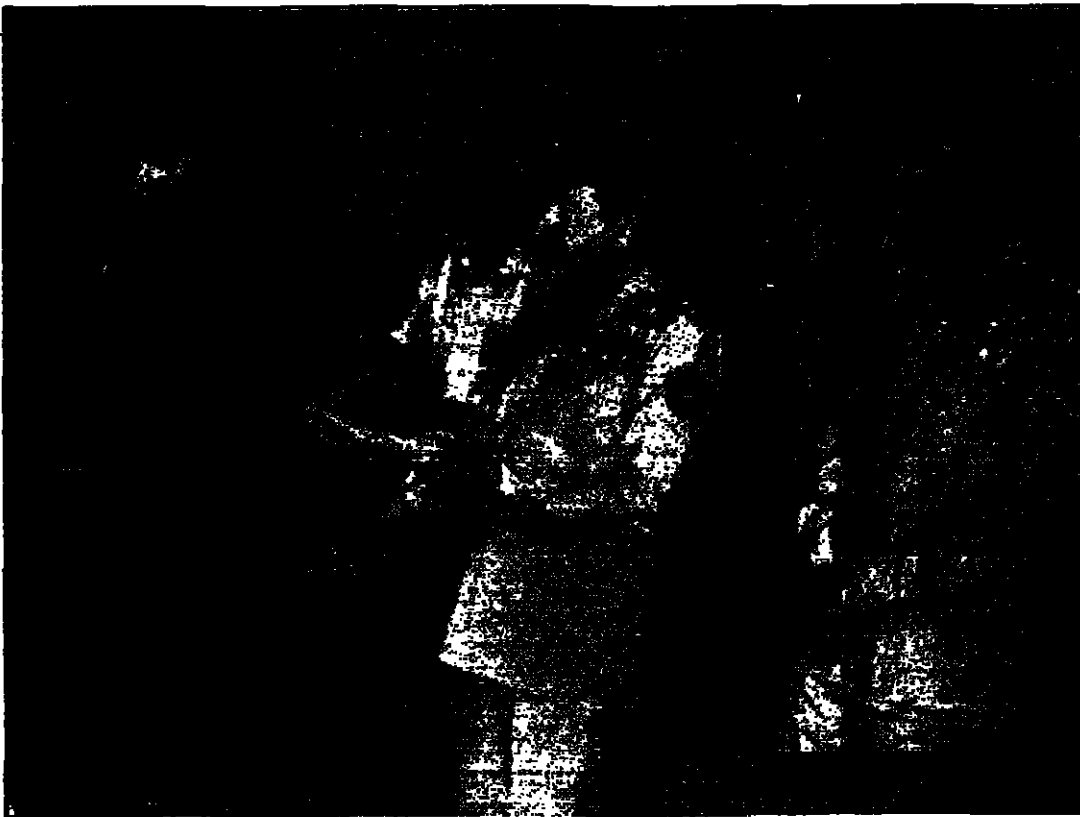
Salem Al Nabhas, a Christian candidate running in Madaba, said that the new parliament "will represent new leaderships among the Jordanian youth who did not have a chance before to participate in the decision making in Jordan but the parliament will also include traditional leaders who still have something to say." Laith Shbeilat, running in the Third District in the capital, described the new parliament as "the first production of a newly established factory."

"It is never of the best quality, but with practice and patience the production becomes better."

## Female People's Army recruits graduate

MAFRAQ (J.T.) — Female recruits for the People's Army graduated here following a three month training course in the use of light arms and in first aid. The graduates were from the Princess Ranya Bint Al Hussein school, the Mafraq Secondary School, the Rahab Secondary School and the

Khalidieh Secondary School, all in the Mafraq region. The picture shows the commander of the People's Army handing a diploma to one of the graduates at a special ceremony held in the Mafraq Municipal Hall (Petra photo)





## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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## The race begins today

STARTING today and for three days running Jordanian aspirants for seats in the Lower House of Parliament will submit their official applications to contest the Nov. 8 election and thus the process of separating the men from the boys among the candidates will begin. Accordingly, while there are some 900 potential candidates competing over 30 seats, by the end of three days of sifting, many are expected to fall out of the race for one or more reasons, both personal and official. The picture which will emerge at the end of the three days marathon should therefore be clearer and more coherent than ever for the voters in order to start comprehending and making final judgments on its basis.

The biggest initial burden falls on the government which will have to decide whether to accept the application of any given candidate or to reject it. This is an awesome responsibility and one fraught with danger. Nevertheless the Ministry of Interior is not projected to liberally use its prerogative to rule against a certain candidate or another. Indications speak of governmental action in this context in a rather conservative or restrictive manner, thus leaving it up to the electorate to determine who and who is not a legitimate candidate by casting their votes for one rather than the other. And that is the way it should be. The people must be the final arbiter of who should speak for them in the newly elected parliament and any interference from the state must be kept to the bare minimum. It goes without saying, of course, that candidates who have records that are clearly objectionable must be screened outright from the outset and the laws of the country must govern the rendering of state judgment on the acceptability of any application in the most favourable way to any given applicant.

Yet, the more exciting period of the election fever will of course begin after the period of official nomination is over. Thereafter not only the candidate names will be identified with greater precision but also their campaign programmes. And only then will the people of Jordan be able to scrutinise the candidates with discerning eyes that have been sharpened by decades of inactive parliamentary life in the Kingdom. While it is just possible that the political sight of Jordanians has lost some out of its focus and has become blurry due to atrophy, it is a safe bet that very soon, three days from now to be precise, the focus of Jordanians mind will sharpen to a point beyond all previous expectations. This is what will make the 1989 national elections a special event that the country will remember for many years as the one that was destined to make or break the continuing process of democratising parliamentary life in the Kingdom.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Friday tackled Prince Hassan's address at a ceremony marking Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary in which he referred to the forefathers of the Islamic nation who contributed to the enhancement of the human dignity and bolstered the freedom of man and reaffirmed the meaning of tolerance. The paper said that the Prince has underlined the importance of dialogue and the respect of the other parties' views, and the role of institutions and responsible citizens who can bring about a change for the better. The Prince referred to the resumption of parliamentary life in Jordan, describing it as part of the Kingdom's efforts to exercise democratic rule and give the citizens a say in the affairs of the Kingdom, the paper said. It noted that through such exercise the road will be paved for removing any injustices and for the dominance of law and security, something which is provided for in Islamic teachings. The paper said that as Jordan celebrates the anniversary, its people remember the teachings of the Prophet and try to follow on his footsteps.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily launches a strong attack on Washington for its underhand dealings represented in its attitude towards the Egyptian peace plan. Mahmoud Rimawi believes that Washington's retreat from accepting the 10-point peace plan and its adoption of a five-point plan dictated by Israel, will be met with scorn and total rejection by the Arabs. The writer notes that the United States had been enthusiastic at first when it heard of the original Egyptian plan, but later had no change heart and succumb to Israel's pressure. The U.S. president and his Secretary of State James Baker both expressed backing for Mubarak and his peace plan which is designed to implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 338 and 242, says the writer. But, he adds, both leaders had to melt down the plan into a 5-point formula which is more to the taste of Israel and world Zionists. Washington is now presenting no more than an American version of Shamir's proposals which have already been rejected by the Arabs, says Rimawi. He describes Washington's attempt as the best formula for obstructing efforts for real peace in the region.

Al Dustour daily discussed King Hussein's address at the University of Ottawa where he explained the Arab Nation's stand and exposed Israel's intransigence and lust for aggression. The paper noted that as the Palestinians and the Arabs are showing clear tendency towards aggression and war, the Israelis continue to develop their nuclear arsenal and stockpile their rockets and missiles in a bid to maintain aggression on Arab countries. The paper also referred to the King's statement about the superpowers' attempts to curtail tension and to reduce nuclear weapons in an atmosphere of détente; and contrasted it with the Israeli position which is totally oriented towards aggression and war. The paper echoed the King's words in which he reiterated the Arab Nation's desire for total peace and appealed to the Western nations to help achieve that goal.

## Arar-Masri debate — another view

By Waleed Sadi

LAST SUNDAY, two "giant" candidates for the Nov. 8 national elections used soft gloves to slug it out over their campaign programmes at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation. Both competitors, Suleiman Arar and Taher Masri, are in fact old hands when it comes to domestic and international issues affecting the country, for both are deemed to varying degrees as part of the "establishment" and figuratively speaking privy to the ins and outs of government, past and present. Of course both seek to be part of any future government that will ensue from the projected elections. And for sure, both seek vindication for their thoughts and views from their respective constituencies. Both know only too well that their previous involvement in the governments of Jordan at the level of cabinet member and deputy prime minister was without formal popular support and that the Nov. 8 elections would provide them with the opportunity to "legitimise" their respective rights and duties to speak on behalf of their differing constituencies. A loss at the elections for either one of them, therefore, would be devastating and would undermine the loser's protestations that he speaks on behalf of a sizeable segment of the Jordanian people. Perhaps this is more academic than real as both are projected to be among the winners in the elections.

Still the two gentlemen drew record crowds of interested voters to hear them out debate the issues that figure highly on the voters agenda. It appears that both men have calculated that one of the highest priorities as far as the electorate are concerned is the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship as that subject developed into their main theme on that eventful autumn evening. There is no definite way to determine how that important subject ended up dominating their "debate" except to postulate that it weighs heavily in their sub-conscious. At the end of the ensuing discussions the audience must have got the distinct signal that no other matter is worth mentioning whenever the subject of the Palestinian-Jordanian relations comes up. To be sure both

political "gladiators" were more than eloquent in their own separate ways and styles to define the Jordanian-Palestinian relations as a strategic one that stems from historical fact and national duties. Where they differed may explain why the two saw necessary to highlight the subject in such a way as to overshadow other relevant issues that many voters regard as equally pressing in their own right and in revealing the true colour of any candidate seeking office and promoting his political fortunes in the Kingdom.

One would have thought that by now the 1988 Jordanian decision to sever legal and administrative relations with the West Bank has put Jordanian-Palestinian relations on a new plateau which is vivid, clear and lasting. The factors and circumstances which have led to that historic decision are by now common knowledge, and it is therefore superfluous to go over the same ground on a matter which has been decisively decided in 1988. Accordingly, the concentration of the Arar-Masri debate on that subject left many voters asking the run of the mill question: "what about the other issues gentlemen?"

The tragedies that ensued from the Palestine case are plentiful and the many wrongs that were committed in the heart of the Arab World in its name are surely among them. Thus when the democratisation process was suspended, martial laws were introduced for decades on end and scores of other priority issues were held in abeyance till the day of liberation of Palestine is achieved, the aftermaths of the Palestinian conflict are indeed formidable.

I suspect, however, that what is uppermost on the mind of Jordanian voters are matters that have yet to be thoroughly debated by candidates and go beyond the Palestinian dimension per se. And what candidates whisper in their private living rooms on the missing issues no longer satisfies the aspirations of their supporters. To be blunt about it the people seek and call for publicly pronounced positions on a variety of issues that leave no

room for different interpretations. The list of such subjects and concerns is long and touch upon issues ranging from religious, ethnic and sub-national including Jordanian-Palestinian relations in the Kingdom, to the current wide application of martial law. Sandwiched between these hotly debated generic subjects one would find many mundane subjects embracing school and university curricula, unemployment, bread and butter issues and the general economic and fiscal situation. On the regional and international political scene, voters want to know how their country's policies are formulated and executed. In these contexts, voters are interested to discover how their country's relations with other countries including Arab ones keep on fluctuating between what seems to be two extremes. Above all they are concerned about the future of their country and how best to preserve its stability and progress on new and enlightened foundations. Viewed against this postulation, voters are no longer satisfied with the chronic injection of issues such as Jordanian-Palestinian relations, as important as they may be, if that meant the non-introduction of other equally important subjects that affect the lives and future of Jordanians whatever their origin. Part of the pentup resentment generated by "concealment of other issues related to the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is the deep and unshaken conviction that the genesis of the entire Palestine case can be found in the proposition that the Arab house was not in order and that its perpetuation lies in large part to the continuation of that unfortunate Arab state of affairs.

So while Taher Masri wants to be nostalgic about the good old days which governed the Jordanian-Palestinian relations and Suleiman Arar seeks to transcend that stage and begin to look forward to futuristic relations between them on the basis of new facts and realities, voters are led to believe, by the two prominent candidates, that other critical issues remain to be dwelt by the Palestinian-Jordanian equation. And that — where the voters and candidates differ!

## Lebanon-conflicting 'legitimate' interests

By P.V. Vivekanand

ONE CAN only hope that the tentative agreement reached by Lebanese parliamentarians after two weeks of meetings in Taif, Saudi Arabia, on an Arab-sponsored "charter for national reconciliation" to end the 15 years of bloodbath in their country, is based on an actual realisation and acceptance of the facts and realities on the ground. Notwithstanding the expected endorsement of the charter by a full meeting of the Lebanese deputies, the agreement is still far short of being translated into action, not to mention the fact that it has to be first approved by the deputies in a parliament session within the borders of Lebanon to make it legal and binding (if these two words had any meaning anymore in the Lebanese scene).

The first question that comes to mind is whether the Lebanese "lawmakers" (that is, if some of them still qualify for the description after years of "breaking" every law that was formulated) have genuinely understood and accepted that there cannot be any direct cross-linkage between constitutional reforms and Syrian military withdrawal from Lebanon. If anything, the two issues have to be seen as parallel but in opposite directions. First and foremost, there is no escape from the reality that there is very little any party, Arab or non-Arab, can do to bring about a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon without addressing Damascus' fears that the consequent scenario will not herald a consolidation of anti-Syrian sentiments in the Lebanese body politic. Quite simply, it is not in the Syrian cards to pull out of Lebanon and leave the scene open for hostile forces, whether political or military, to build an atmosphere which could, sooner or later, lead to fundamental changes in the traditional Lebanese-Syrian equation at the expense of the Syrians.

Crudely put, the situation resembles a jealous lover and a flirting counterpart. Syria has always considered Lebanon well within its backyard sphere of influence, and it is inconceivable for Damascus to accept any diminishing of its self-assumed role as protector and guardian of Lebanon, whether regionally or internationally.

Above all, Lebanon is of very significant strategic importance to Syria within the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Notwithstanding the argument that Syria was not exactly eager to grapple with Israel during the Zionist state's 1982 invasion of Lebanon (if anything, the Syrians very pointedly stayed away from engaging the invading forces on the ground, and they were actually forced into the disastrous air battle over north Lebanon in which almost the entire Syrian air force was wiped out), there is little doubt that Damascus has always entertained fears that Lebanon could be the convenient backdoor for its enemy. Memories are still vivid of the 1973 war, when Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley served as "excellent tank country" for the Israeli army.

From such a vantage point, the rest of the Lebanese-Syrian jigsaw puzzle slowly fits into the slots. It explains partly why Syria, openly brushing aside Arab and international appeals, moved against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in 1984.

It was a clear case of Syrian determination to protect its long-term interests in Lebanon. Palestinian resistance attacks across the border against Israel were on the rise and could draw fierce backlashes on pro-Syrian elements in South Lebanon. In the resulting scenario, Syria was compelled to offer indirect "protection" to its allies in South Lebanon and maintain its carefully nurtured political links with Lebanese Shi'ites through preempting Palestinian attacks against Israel. No doubt, the frequent retaliatory assaults by the Israelis and their South Lebanon Army (SLA) allies against Shi'ite-dominated villages in South Lebanon were calculated to spark Syrian fury against the Palestinians. The Israeli message was too clear: Keep the Palestinians in check or things will be hot for Syria's friends in the south. As the Israelis tightened the screws on South Lebanon, so did the Syrians against the Palestinians through the Shi'ite Amal militia. However, the Israelis were also very careful not to upset the Syrians to the extent that the fundamental conflict — the state of war between Syria and the Zionist state — was stroked and inflamed since it could never be predicted as to what Damascus would do if it felt its back to the wall.

Syrian reaction to any meaningful foreign interference in Lebanon, whether American, European or Arab, has to be seen in this light. The only exception perhaps is Iran; but then it was a question of "if you can't beat them join them" since there was little the Syrians could do against the Shi'ite religious fervour that Ayatollah Khomeini whipped up in Lebanon in the wake of his revolution in Iran. Obviously, Syria found it difficult to stem the tide of pro-Khomeini sentiments which spread like wildfire among Lebanon's Shi'ites and decided it would be better off if Damascus joined Iran as the benefactor of the Shi'ites. Furthermore, the alliance with Iran also afforded Syria the opportunity to hit back at its Baathist rival Iraq in addition to gaining certain economic benefits; at times from Tehran and at other times from the Arabs.

### The Lebanese pay the price

Against such a backdrop of Syrian paranoia over Lebanon, it is obvious that Damascus has more self-argued reasons than one to assume a protective posture over its Lebanese allies in whom it



banks on a protect its own interests in the long-run. Seen in this light, the violent reaction to rightist proxy Michel Aoun's moves against the Muslim and leftist militias in Lebanon — "the nationalist forces" in Syrian parlance — makes sense. Until March this year, Aoun was a thorn on Syria's side which would have been taken out by the right political/military surgery at the right moment; and Damascus was none too perturbed over the uneasy situation in Lebanon, with no president, two governments, a divided army etc. etc. But, the Maronite Catholic general took one step too many and had to go ahead and challenge Damascus through blockading ports controlled by Syrian-allied forces in Lebanon. What happened since then is history: Syria fury was unleashed and the Lebanese paid a dear price for the next seven months, at a rate much higher than some of the fiercest days of the civil war.

Aoun may be patting himself in the back for having pushed the Syrians into a corner and brought things to a head-on clash, but it is a safe bet that he did not expect to have to reckon with the full blast and ferocity of Syrian anger sparked by the interpretation of his actions by Damascus. Indeed, it was a multiple challenge for Syria: Aoun not only sought to humiliate the Syrians in front of their allies in Lebanon, but also rubbed salt into the wounds by smuggling up to Iraq. It is little surprising that Syria was ready to throw in everything it has into trouncing Aoun. Syria's ill-fated efforts in July and August to thrust across the strategic town of Souq Al Gharb area into the Christian heartland of Lebanon, and trigger what could easily have been a make-or-break battle with rightist forces for the first time since 1976, could be seen as the most telling sign of how seriously Damascus viewed Aoun's challenge.

### Arab League's belatedness

It should have been understood as such by all concerned; foremost of all the tripartite Arab committee charged with restoring peace to Lebanon. If anything, the Arab League should have been the first to realise the Syrian sentiments, particularly that it was mostly over Lebanon that Damascus went to the extent of staying put over the question of Egypt's reinstatement into the league at the Casablanca summit; what Damascus hoped was an Arab undertaking in return of Iraqi neutrality in Lebanon. But, when Baghdad showed no intention of moving away from behind Aoun, Syria did not feel itself under any obligation to cooperate with the mediation panel either.

Somehow, everyone, very studiously, underplayed the Syrian anxieties over Lebanon and it was only natural that the Arab committee ran plump into a blank wall when it came to grips with the question of the Syrian military presence in the country.

The very fact that Syria was willing to take on anyone, including its supporters, Saudi Arabia and Algeria, and lukewarm friend Morocco, and big power France, which flexed its naval muscles in an apparent warning to Damascus, adds more colour to the pronounced Syrian determination to call the shots in Lebanon. It would seem that it was at this point that everyone, most of all the Americans, really understood that there was no way of twisting the Syrian arm which will remain poised in Lebanon and will pay whatever price for staying there. Hence, the pointed American and allied call for "an Arab solution" to the Lebanese problem. When it dawned rather belatedly on the Arab mediators (or,

perhaps when they choose to let it dawn on them), the situation was cut and dry as always was the case: Syria is ready to sacrifice a hundred of its soldiers every day if that is what it takes to retain its influence in Lebanon: Is there a rival who is willing to bid one tenth of it? One hundredth of it?

Blackmail, intimidation, shotgun wedding; call it what you will, but that is about all it amounts to. Of course, Syria does not see it that way. For all practical and technical purposes, Damascus believes in its just cause in Lebanon and there is no way anyone can influence it otherwise. And when you begin to understand it, you understand it well too easily. That's the message inherent in the revived Arab League efforts and the consequent Taif deliberations, where the mediators sought to convince everyone concerned that Lebanon was stuck with Syria for the time being and would continue to remain so for some time, but in the meantime would you agree to political reforms that will satisfy the Syrians to a large extent without upsetting them with questions and deadlines over its military presence in Lebanon?

Political reforms in Lebanon will be acceptable to Syria to the extent that they serve to protect Syrian interests without having to maintain a large military contingent in the country. At the first sign of any infringement of this cardinal rule, and there we go again. At the same time, it is naive to think that Syria, at any point in time after sending its army to Lebanon in 1976, wanted to indefinitely continue its costly "occupation" of its neighbour or "annexing" it as some had charged. Damascus will be more than happy to keep a watchful eye over Lebanon with an authoritative Beirut government with a strong political base in power but sympathetic and supportive of Syria's concerns and fears.

To be sure, one of the ways to ensure long-time Syrian influence in Lebanon is political reforms which will give the Muslims a greater say in the country's political course. There can be no such thing in the Syrian dictionary as "leave the Lebanese to fend for themselves." Again, there could be many adjectives to describe the Syrian posture, but that does not alter the realities on the ground in Lebanon and the political air in Damascus.

Furthermore, Israel's occupation of its self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon offers a perfectly justifiable argument to the Syrians to maintain their presence in Lebanon; if not in Beirut then in the Bekaa Valley, as long as the Israelis remain in the south. Can we expect the Israelis to be so concerned over the welfare of the Lebanese people that it will pull back across the border to clear the way for Lebanese national reconciliation and peace and stability after 15 years of bloody violence?

All said and done, the issue that faces the Lebanese deputies gathered in Taif is: left or right, up or down, there is only way to go, and that is in the direction of understanding and addressing the Syrian paranoia in Lebanon. They would still be talking one year from now in Taif if they sought to link everything in Lebanon with Syrian withdrawal. But, if and once they follow the logical course and separate the issue of reforms and Syrian presence, the rest of the way could be relatively easy. But, are they willing to take the first step? And, even if they did, how will it affect Aoun, who sees everything with a limited military vision based on numbers of guns and calibre of bullets, and appears to entertain the naive notion that the United Nations will somehow be able to force Syria to pull out of Lebanon if the current talks fail?

## Asia is both culprit and sufferer in global warming

By Steven Brull  
Reuter

TOKYO — Developing nations in Asia are particularly vulnerable to the "greenhouse effect," the global warming which could make rice harvests dwindle and

submerge whole countries under rising seas. But they are contributing more and more of the waste gases that cause it.

A new report by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agen-

cy said about a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions now come from Asia and the percentage will rise as the region's economies boom and its population increases.

According to a growing scientific consensus, gases produced

by industry, vehicles and forest clearance trap heat from the sun much like the glass walls of a greenhouse.

If emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides and industrial gases known as chlorofluorocarbons continue at the pre-

sent rate, world temperatures could rise an average of 1.5 to 4.5 degrees in the next 40 years.

Seas could rise 0.5 to 2.0 metres, flooding low-lying areas, since the volume of seawater expands with temperature. Rainfall would increase. Agriculture

would be disrupted.

The U.S. report, prepared for an environment conference in Tokyo, said China, Japan and India were Asia's largest emitters of carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels such as coal and petrol.



## The Jubeiha Amusement Park

By Nur Sadi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One can see the lights from a distance as if hung from midair, blinking lights, revolving lights, and lights that form circles. As one drives ahead, the looming colours take form, signalling the trappings of a fair. Multitude of crowds pour in and out as one watches people, riding buses, cars and pick-ups, clap their hands and shout "Jubeiha! Jubeiha!" with unmatched rhythm. A typical scene on the road to Abu Nuseir Complex on a Thursday evening.

As we enter the Jubeiha Amusement Park to share the excitement, we see on the left crowds fighting to buy souvenirs. Ahead, we hear screaming when swarms of people pour out of "the boat" — the most frightful ride which churns one's stomach as one faces the ground from above at a 90 degree angle, huddling one another, each one paler than the other. Pizzas,

shawarmahs, icecream and popcorn are being devoured by every other person as they look around for more rides. "Oh, no, not another watermelon tent!" "No, this is a bedouin tent," says another, where people relax, dance and drink the traditional coffee to prevent their shakes and shivers after the "daring" rides.

During the day, students from schools all over the country converge on the 65-dunum playground for an outing for enjoyment and education. According to the students, they come to the amusement park for painting and writing about their outings, to understand physics and geometrical angles as well as for fun. It has become a "tradition" for schools throughout Jordan to use this fair as an educational experience and exposure, according to John Allen, manager of the amusement park.

Allen said that the park was opened in July 1988 whereby the "Sheppherd Company" of England has a five-year contract with

the Greater Amman Municipality to manage the amusement park. He added that the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment had allocated a piece of land free of charge and the \$8.5 million for the amusement park was financed by a loan from the Arab Bank in Bahrain and guaranteed by the Jordanian government. The investment went to the rides and design and construction of the park.

Allen explained that the facilities are brought from Italy except for the tower which was from England. The tower is shaped as a cylinder with glass windows surrounding it. Once seated in the cylinder shaped room, it is lifted up while rotating so as to absorb the vast view of the surroundings and the city. "The construction, which includes restaurants and office blocks, are made by local contractors," Allen said. There are also some privately owned facilities, he added, which are the flying chairs; chairs on which one is taken round in

circles. Skilled games including luck and video games are also privately owned.

During the peak seasons — from May to July — 130 employees work in the park, according to Allen. "Other months we have about 90 employees" and in the winter, he added, when the amusement park is closed from December to February, they keep 30 employees for maintenance and round-the-clock guards. The workers are employed by the Greater Amman Municipality which gets the collected money to invest in needed facilities.

Monthly and daily records are kept to track the number of visitors to the park. "The average number of people in March was 20,000," Allen noted. "In April we had 44,000 and in May we averaged 122,000," he added. In July about 3,000 people per day were counted while on Thursdays it went up to 6,000 people per day. On Fridays, however, there was an increase to 9,000 people.

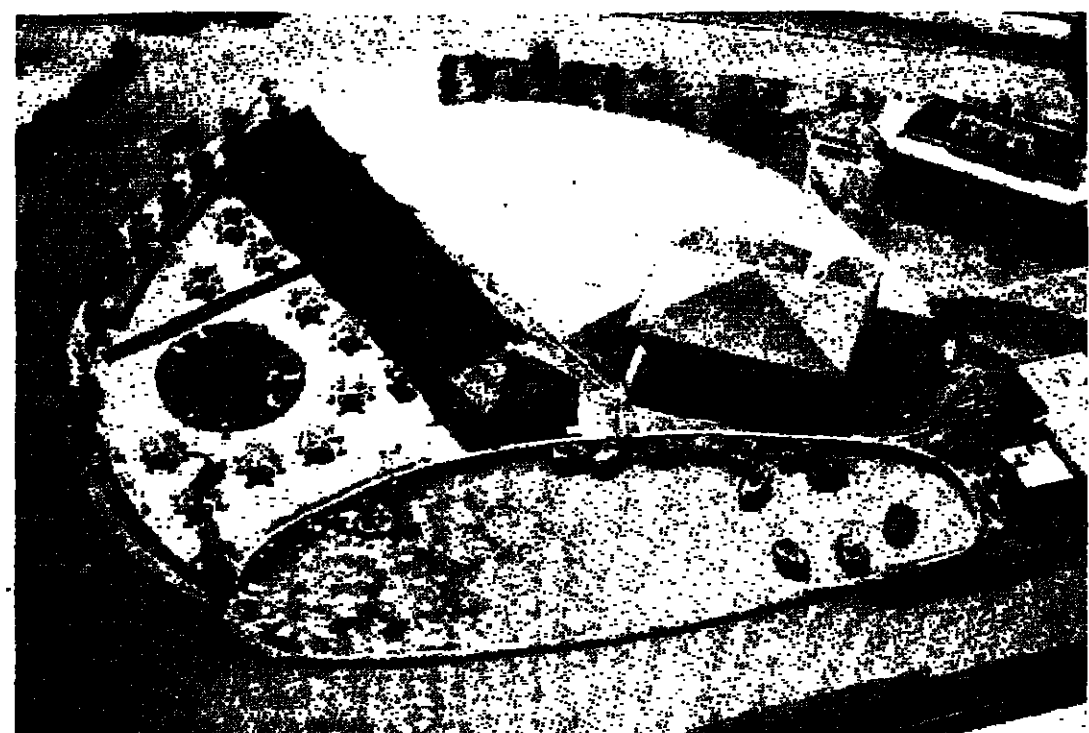
According to Allen, the highest number of visitors in one day has been 26,000 people.

"There is room for expansion," Allen said, "although it is more expensive to bring new rides." But in winter, he hopes to bring new rides that could be manufactured in Jordan. Allen envisages "some sort of water ride — a similar to the bumper cars — which could save foreign exchange since it could be manufactured in Jordan."

The devaluation of the dinar has had some positive impact on the park. According to Allen, Jordanians are no longer unable to travel abroad so frequently therefore they look for local activities. Another factor is the increased influx of foreigners into the country.

A family agreed: "It is as though we were in a different world. We come here and spend the day, there is so much variety and so many things to do."

A girl said: "The park is far from Amman but transportation



is not a problem. There are always taxis ready to pick you up." A foreigner added: "I enjoyed my trip here. There are so many

different things going on, including traditional things." A young boy summed it up: "This attraction is excellent be-

cause it provides us with lots of activities. We feel we have been travelling outside the country at the end of the day."

## Choice of Dalai Lama for peace prize means more interest, but little action

By Victoria Graham  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama is likely to focus attention on the cause of Tibetan independence and human rights, but unlikely to result in U.N. actions that would offend China.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who accepted the prize last year for U.N. peacekeeping forces, had no comment on the Dalai Lama's selection. U.N. officials said they do not comment on non-U.N. recipients.

In the past, letters and petitions from Tibetan activists pro-

testing China's alleged suppression of their human rights, culture and independence movement have not elicited any public response from U.N. officials.

The last time the Tibet issue was taken up in the general assembly was Dec. 18, 1965, when the world body called for an end to Chinese practices that deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including the right to self-determination.

The issue first had been raised in the assembly in 1959, the year the Dalai Lama fled to India after an abortive anti-Chinese coup. China joined the world body in 1971.

U.N. diplomats, mindful of China's clout, did not predict a surge of diplomatic activity on behalf of Tibet, but said there would be wider interest and intense private discussions.

The Dalai Lama has advocated autonomy, not independence, for Tibet and has said China would be responsible for foreign affairs and defence.

"But the Chinese are very touchy about their domestic affairs and no one wants to offend them, since everyone has their own domestic troubles and wants the U.N. to stay out," said one senior Asian diplomat, asking not to be named.

There was no immediate response from the Chinese mission to the United Nations, although other Chinese diplomats have condemned the award to the Tibetan spiritual leader.

"I wouldn't expect this selection of the Dalai Lama to have a great effect on deliberations in the U.N. itself," said Ed Luck, president of the U.N. Association of the United States, said in an interview Thursday. "This is partly because the question of Tibet in Chinese eyes is partly a question of sovereignty, as are its own minority problems for the Soviet Union."

He cited the selection in 1975

of Andrei Sakharov, a Soviet physicist and human rights campaigner. In time, he said, Sakharov's message got through, as perhaps will the message of the Dalai Lama.

The selection "makes it harder for China to hide the question of Tibet," he said.

Chinese government offices were closed when news reached Beijing that the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader had won the coveted prize, and there was no immediate reaction.

The Chinese embassy in Oslo denounced the decision as interfering in China's internal affairs and called the Dalai Lama

a political figure intent on "splitting the fatherland."

China considers the Dalai Lama a fomenter of division and trouble within Tibet, which it claims as an ancient Chinese territory and tributary. Chinese troops marched into Tibet in 1950 in a bloodless takeover.

Beijing rejects international criticism of its Tibet policy and its suppression of the pro-democracy movement in Beijing as interference in its internal affairs.

It was outraged Aug. 31 when a U.N. human rights subcommittee in Geneva called for a report on China's human rights practices to be submitted to the full com-

mission next March because of the violence sparked by pro-democracy student movement.

China is a powerful U.N. member with many friends in the developing world, the eastern bloc and the West. No government has wanted to undermine their own relations with Beijing by raising the June military moves against pro-democracy protestors or Tibet issues in the U.N. Security Council and General Assembly.

China already has been wounded by criticism of the violence used against the student-led democracy movement. In a recent speech to the General Assem-

bly, China denounced its Western critics and said they were harming relations.

The August decision on human rights in Geneva was the first time that one of the five permanent members of the security council has been rebuked in this way. The other members are the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

Both the United States and Soviet Union have declined to raise the issue of the student movement violence in the security council, saying it would be inappropriate and non-productive. China also could veto any criticism of its actions.

## Science and food

By Viviane Sentillac

YOU start with a soya steak garnished with monosodium glutamate sauce and end with an ethyl-phenyl-glycidate ice-cream. Does that make you hesitate? Yet each time you order a hamburger, instant soup or vanilla custard, that is what you eat: additives, preservatives and transformed vegetable protein. Today, whatever you eat, it has been tampered with by biotechnology and food-processing industries.

Rich countries eat more and more meat. Without being entirely harmful, this kind of eating-habit is contestable. In order to feed cattle, countries of the Common Market, the United States and Canada use more than two thirds of the cereals they produce.

At a time when two thirds of the inhabitants of the planet are hungry, it is becoming indispensable to review all the stages of the food chain: animal and plant selection, methods of cultivation, and the means of processing and preserving food.

The National Agronomic Research Institute (INRA) is working, in particular, on the selection and crossing of breeds. They have already obtained sows which not only have two or three piglets more a year, but also whose food requirements are reduced by less

than 200 grammes on the 10 kilos of whole food normally needed to produce one kilo of meat. On the scale of a pig, that does not appear very much, but, on a national level, it represents an annual saving of 70,000 tonnes of food.

Poultry, fish and vegetables undergo the same genetic manipulations. A chicken can be raised in 8 weeks instead of 15 and with a kilo of food less. Trout can weigh 3 kilos and beans be 35 centimetres long. It is also possible to grow vegetables without soil. Chickory and tomatoes dip their roots in channels containing a nutritive solution.

INRA is also seeking to produce vegetables able to fix nitrogen from the air. In this way it would be possible to stop using nitrogen fertilizers which cost a lot of energy to manufacture industrially. The experiment consists in inserting a fragment of the DNA of certain bacteria in the cells of plants which scientists are trying to transform genetically. In a few years, it will be possible to programme micro-organisms so that they can produce large amounts of proteins which are of interest as food.

A normal food intake should provide the organism with 12 to 17 % of its calories in the form of proteins. Food coming from



animals contains the largest amounts, but it takes enormous amounts of vegetable protein to "produce" animal protein. That is why the food-processing industries are seeking ways to shortcut the animal, by using vegetable proteins as food for humans. These can be extracted from oil-producing and vegetable seeds (soya, peanut, sunflower, peas, broadbeans, etc), from micro-organisms (yeasts, algae, bacteria, filament moulds, etc.) and from green plants (alfalfa, spinach, tobacco ...).

After removing the toxic elements from all these vegetable proteins, they can be transformed

into food. They are already consumed in the form of "texture agents" in cooked dishes, desserts, biscuits and baby foods.

They also form the basis of diets and menus in macrobiotic restaurants. In the future, vegetable proteins will be used for making imitations of meat, ham, fruit and vegetables.

This is already possible thanks to an extruder-cooker, originally designed for making plastics and which has now been adapted to food. Imagine a huge machine which is fed, at one end, with a few tonnes of a kind of paste and which, three minutes later, pro-

duces aperitif biscuits, croquettes for dogs or omelettes in tubes, at the other end. It all depends on the original composition of the paste (cereal flour, powder milk, pieces of meat, etc.) and the additives and colouring put in it.

With this kind of machine that can process everything, it would be possible to recycle the huge amounts of cellulose by-products produced in the world, of which only a tiny part is used today. It is to be hoped that such research in food processing will finally solve the problems of undernutrition in poor and overpopulated countries. — French features.

## Anti-drugs crusade wins wide backing

A WIDE cross-section of the international community appears to have picked up the gauntlet thrown down by Colombia's cocaine barons when they declared "total war" on their own government.

Such an open challenge to the rule of law, especially by some of the most powerful elements behind the menace of illegal drug trafficking, inevitably produced a strong response. But this was also partly a tribute to the courage shown by Colombia's President Virgilio Barco and his administration in their bid to break the power of the narcotics cartels.

Both the United States and the 12-nation European Community reacted swiftly, pledging help to Colombia, while moves were afoot to ensure that the United Nations Security Council voiced the world body's support.

The drug warlords stepped up their reign of terror in response to the sweeping new emergency powers introduced by President Barco. These include the renewed threat of what the cartels' leaders most fear — extradition to the U.S. to face trial.

The latest crackdown followed a series of murders, including the assassination of Senator Luis Carlos Galan, regarded as the man most likely to win next year's presidential election. The killings were believed to have been ordered by the drug racketeers.

It is a formidable challenge that the Colombian authorities and their international allies have accepted. Because of the vast wealth they have amassed, the cartels wield considerable influence and power, even to the extent of running private armies into which foreign mercenaries have been recruited.

Colombia is a key battleground in what it is widely hoped will become a global, anti-drugs crusade. It is the centre of South America's illicit cocaine industry. Coca leaf, grown there and in Peru and Bolivia, is processed in Colombian laboratories and then smuggled into the U.S. and Europe.

This is why the most prompt response to President Barco's plea for equipment and expertise to help him in his battle came from these countries.

The U.S. alone was providing \$65 million worth of emergency aid. At the same time, as the cartels' most lucrative market, it is to redouble its efforts to combat drug abuse. A \$7.9 billion programme was outlined by President Bush in a televised address to the nation on Sept. 5.

He said that the "comprehensive, fully-integrated, national control policy" was designed to tackle the problem at all its stages — from production and trafficking to addiction.

Holding up a bag of the cocaine

derivative, "crack," which he said had been bought on a Washington street, the president declared: "If we face this evil as a nation united, this will be nothing but a handful of useless chemicals."

The U.S. initiative was praised by the British Prime Minister who also called for the "full moral authority" of the international community to be invested in the anti-drugs struggle.

Addressing a conference of world parliamentarians in London, Mrs. Thatcher added: "Those who produce and those who sell drugs are waging war against the young people of all our countries, and we must do everything we can to stop this evil trade."

Meanwhile, there was growing concern over signs that the Colombian crisis was spilling over into neighbouring countries. Drug trafficking was also regarded as a factor in the rift between the U.S. and Panama.

Washington severed diplomatic relations with the Central American republic after its de facto ruler, General Manuel Noriega, had installed a puppet president and administration.

The U.S. has publicly accused the general of amassing a personal fortune of up to \$300 million through his involvement in drug smuggling. — Lions features.

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# JTA offers new heights to Jordanian businessmen

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

**AMMAN** — Vast economic and social changes have swept Jordan in the last twelve to eighteen months. To accommodate the winds of change both the public and private sectors have called for steps to privatise, industrialise and internationalise Jordanian enterprises.

The infrastructure necessary to successfully realise the desired expansions does not exist in all its facets at the present time. The recently established Jordan Trade Association (JTA) is intended to close the gap between desired essential tools for Jordanian exporters and actual tools. Serving as an informatics data bank centre, the JTA provides information links with possible export markets for Jordanian manufacturers in over 150 locations worldwide.

As a response to individual and company requests for a data bank supplying information on exports to the industrial sector in the Kingdom, the JTA was established in August 1988, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

are 24 companies which are members of JTA and enjoy the benefits of all the association's services. After paying an initiation fee and an annual membership fee, members have access to an extensive data base and library facilities covering world export markets, trade opportunities, suitable channels for distribution, international trade laws, prevailing economic and financial situations, required technical specifications of goods and services and prices of products similar to Jordanian products.

Non-member companies are free to use the facilities, for a relative small service charge, Abu-Rahmeh says. He stresses that the association is not a profit-making organisation.

The raison d'être of the JTA, namely the expansion and development of the export of goods and services produced by the Jordanian private sector, has been made all the more urgent by the industrial need for "hard cur-

rency." Since the realignment of the Jordanian dinar, raw materials required by local industries to survive, have at least doubled in price. Thus, the need to export to countries, which will pay Jordanian manufacturers in hard currency is a necessity.

Abu Rahmeah confirmed that the association recently obtained membership to the World Trade Centre (WTC) in Cairo. The membership entitles JTA members to use a full range of information services in over 150 trading countries around the world, including a computerised communications system, a data base and library facilities covering world markets, trade opportunities and government regulations and tariffs.

Another advantage that Jordanian businessmen dealing with us will have is the exposure their products will have on the WTC online 'network'. Their products will be exposed to four million businessmen, in 150 locations in 50 countries around the world," Abu Rahmeah points out.

JTA has been in constant contact with the Amman Chamber of Commerce and the Amman Chamber of Industry and has also finalised procedures to connect with the National Information Sys-

tem (NIS) at the Ministry of Planning. The JTA link with NIS will give its members access to socio-economic information on Jordan from various data bases. Among the information that will be provided will be: Balance of payments, national accounts, price indices, currency exchange rates, government budget and foreign trade statistics.

Other data bases available to JTA members provide profiles on importers of selected products and import and export statistics for over 100 countries.

Expanding markets  
Although Jordanians have had good export trade relations with other Arab countries for some time now, Abu Rahmeah says now is a good time to expand trade routes.

"Other countries in the region are industrialising much faster than we are, which means tough competition for our products," says Abu Rahmeah. He believes that competition is important, if for no other reason than for the improvement of Jordan's products.

"Once the local producer realises that he has to do something to improve his product, to make it market competitive then we will be moving in the right direction," he stresses.

"The single most important

factor that I would like Jordanian producers to consider is the quality of their product. If they don't start producing top quality very soon then they will be out-done by everyone. I would not like to see Jordanian products in competition with a third class product on the third class market, but competing with a first class product on the first class market," Abu Rahmeah says.

"In an attempt to broaden their export horizons, Jordanian producers should take due care to have their own quality control and to make sure that they have done their research and development. Exporting is no joke. Those who want to export should take their role seriously. If they don't have a sufficiently good and competitive product they should not market it in the first place because it could create a negative image for all Jordanian products. Why defeat our cause before we have begun," says Abu Rahmeah.

Jordanian exporters have not always taken the quality control issue very seriously. Not long ago some Jordanian-produced vegetables were destroyed upon delivery in one Scandinavian country because of the existence of some chemical residues, supposedly of pesticides, according to one informed exporting source.

According to Abu Rahmeah "as equally important as quality con-

trol are marketing techniques. Each industry or enterprise must have a marketing department, which studies their destined markets thoroughly."

Increased participation at international fairs and exhibitions, Abu Rahmeah stressed are also valuable steps which could be taken by Jordanian exporters to boost their products in international markets.

Preparations during initial contact meetings are extremely important. According to Abu-Rahmeah, "there are Jordanian businessmen who intend to export their goods but don't bother to bring samples or price lists with them on their initial meetings for which they pay thousands of dinars to establish (plane tickets, hotels, etc.)."

Abu Rahmeah points out that "short cuts won't work anymore, neither in production, nor in quality control, informatics and marketing strategies. JTA is here to welcome Jordanian exporters to the real world."

Meeting the formative needs of budding Jordanian industries and manufacturers will not be easy for JTA, but, with the help of the re-aligned Jordanian dinar and more consciousness on the part of the Jordanian exporter, they may very well have a chance to boost the export market to new heights.

## Jordan, Syria draw plan to promote joint free zone

**AQABA (J.T.)** — Means of promoting the activities and programmes of the joint Jordanian-Syrian free zones in the fields of industry and trade, were discussed at a meeting held in Aqaba Thursday by teams representing both countries.

Syrian deputy minister of supply, Ahmad Dabbas who addressed the meeting, announced that the board of directors of the Syrian-Jordanian Free Zones Corporation recommended a plan for attracting investors from Jordan, Syria and Arab and foreign countries to set up industries and economic projects in the free zones, run jointly by the two countries.

He said that such ventures can start now that all the infrastructure has been completed providing buildings, means of com-

munication, essential services like water, electricity and other utilities.

Apart from commerce and industry, three free zones could host activities related to tourism, general services and could serve as a storage ground for goods from various sources, Dabbas noted.

He said that the board had informed the chambers of industry and trade in Amman and Damascus that special privileges and facilities will be granted to be first ten investors who embark on economic projects in the joint free zones.

Participants in the meeting later made a tour of the harbour area, the free zone and the Mudawarah border post at the common border with Saudi Arabia.

### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

#### USX severs South African ties

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — USX Corp. has sold all of its equity interests in South African companies. The oil and steel concern withdrew the identity of the buyers and the sale price. Shareholders submitted a resolution earlier this year that USX sell its holdings in the racially segregated nation. They withdrew the resolution after management said sale negotiations were under way. USX held a 21 per cent stake in Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Ltd., 45 per cent in Ferroalloys Ltd. and 46 per cent in Prieska Copper Mines Ltd. The companies produce iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, zinc concentrates and ferroalloys. The Pittsburgh company said it formerly used minerals from the companies but no longer finds them essential as a supplier. USX had no operations or employees in South Africa.

#### Kuwait considers ordering 11 tankers

**KUWAIT (AP)** — Kuwait is studying tenders to build 11 tankers to cope with the increasing world demand for oil, the daily Al Qabas daily has reported. It quoted Abdul Fattah Al Badr, chairman of the state-run Kuwait Oil Tanker Co. as saying "the new tankers would be built by more than a single company or state, because no shipyard can accommodate them all." Korean shipyards won Kuwait's last contract for six tankers. Kuwait has 25 tankers, but it is not known how many are currently operating. Several were damaged during the Iran-Iraq war. Some of these are likely to be replaced by the new tankers. "The Kuwaiti fleet is carrying 60 per cent of the country's oil products and 30 per cent on crude oil output," Badr said. "It's the biggest oil tanker fleet in the region and among the member states of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries." He predicted a sharp rise in cost of transporting oil in the next few years because of an expected increase in world demand and limited tanker capacity.

#### Argentina clears investment climate

**BUENOS AIRES (AP)** — Foreign investors no longer need government approval to set up plants and factories, and last week were guaranteed the right to take profits out of Argentina. Both measures were part of a decree signed by President Carlos Menem, whose government is seeking to attract foreign funds to develop the oil industry and buy state assets such as the railroad, airline and telephone company. The government hopes to attract \$12 to \$15 billion in the oil sector alone during the next five years, Menem said.

#### Peruvian inflation reaches 992%

**LIMA (AP)** — The government said prices rose 25.1 per cent in August, nearly equal July's rate of 24.6 per cent. The lowest monthly rate reported by the government this year was June's 23.1 per cent. April's 48.6 per cent was the year's highest. The figures showed that the accumulated inflation rate so far this year is 992.6 per cent. The government of President Alan Garcia has instituted a number of austerity packages since September aimed at cutting the growth of the government deficit, which critics say is fueling inflation. In June, the government began a series of one per cent daily devaluations of the currency, the inti, against the U.S. dollar to stabilise exchange rates and slow inflation. The government recently injected 500 billion intis, about \$170 million, into the economy to stimulate production, but critics have warned the action will produce another surge in hyperinflation. In 1988 Peru's inflation rate was 1,722 per cent.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, October 11, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	97.4	98.4
U.S. dollar	628.0	634.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	437.9	442.3
Pound Sterling	977.6	987.4	Dutch guilder	292.4	295.3
Deutschmark	330.1	333.4	Swedish crown	96.3	97.3
Swiss franc	377.7	381.5	Italian lira (for 100)	45.1	45.6
			Belgian franc (for 10)	156.8	158.4

### Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Oct. 7-11	Sept. 30-Oct. 4
Daily average	JD 1,991,457	JD 2,249,068
Total volume	JD 9,957,285	JD 11,245,342
Total shares	4,627,784	4,699,140
No. of contracts	5,515	5,369

#### Sectoral trading:

Industrial	JD 7,387,167 (74.2%)	JD 6,930,179 (61.61%)
Financial	JD 1,098,336 (11.0%)	JD 3,138,760 (27.9%)
Service	(13.5%)	(9.8%)
Insurance	(1.3%)	(0.7%)
Share price index	134.6	129.2
No. of companies	57	59
Price movement (rise)	32	33
(decline)	17	17
(stable)	8	9

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

**LONDON (R)** — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.5590/5600	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1742/52	Canadian dollar
	1.9008/15	Deutschmarks
	2.1450/60	Dutch guilders
	1.6710/20	Swiss francs
	39.88/93	Belgian francs
	6.4475/4525	French francs
	1394/1395	Italian lire
	144.00/10	Japanese yen
	6.5400/50	Swedish crowns
	7.0425/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.4100/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	362.80/363.30	U.S. dollars

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

**SYDNEY** — The share market shook of a bearish mood to close higher, boosted by a weaker local dollar and a rise in the London market. The All Ordinaries index rose 11.8 points to 1741.9.

**TOKYO** — Talk that the U.S. may be easing credit policy, plus technical factors, lifted prices broadly higher. The Nikkei jumped 320.97 points to close at 35,116.02.

**HONG KONG** — Selling focused on selected blue chips dragged the Hang Seng index down 11.5 points to close at 2,782.30 on low turnover.

**SINGAPORE** — The stock market closed on a mixed note after profit-taking.

**BOMBAY** — Share prices ended lower on all-round selling triggered by newspaper reports of pay-offs in an arms deal.

**FRANKFURT** — Prices fell sharply on inflation worries after news of a surge in West German wholesale prices in September. The 30-share DAX index dropped 23.44 to 1,589.34.

**ZURICH** — Shares closed steady to lower after prices came off their early highs on light profit-taking. The all-Swiss performance index was down 0.4 at 1,185.1.

**PARIS** — Prices were easier as speculative interest faded in stock of the merchant bank Paribas. The CAC-40 index slipped 0.06 to 1,932.68.

**LONDON** — Shares were mixed in volatile late trading due to concerns about inflation and a warning by the Bank of England about the property market. At 1500 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 3.8 at 2,241.6.

## Britain to keep unpopular tactics in fighting inflation

**BLACKPOOL, England (R)** — Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson denied Thursday that Britain was sliding towards recession and refused to retreat from his unpopular high interest rate policy.

In a speech designed to soothe anxious voters and jittery money markets, Lawson told the ruling Conservative Party's annual conference that there would be no retreat from the battle against inflation.

Calls for the portly finance minister's resignation have been growing in the party rank-and-file and in the normally pro-conservative press since he raised interest rates one point to 15 per cent a week ago.

Lawson declared: "People ask

whether there is an alternative to high interest rates at the present time. And whether they can be sure the policy will work. Bluntly, the answer is that there is no alternative and the policy will work."

He added: "I will continue to take whatever action is needed, however unpopular it may be, to keep our economy sound and strong."

"Lawson said nothing supportive," said a trader at a leading U.S. bank. "The market is clearly disappointed and unless the Bank of England intervenes the pound will continue to weaken."

Responding to fears that the economy was facing recession, with Britain's trade gap at a record level and sterling under

pressure even after last week's interest rate rise, Lawson said: "There is no need whatever for this to mean recession, providing business and industry keep a firm control of their costs, including wage costs."

He said he could not predict when rates would be brought down.

"We will take no risks with inflation," he said. "But it is clear that the economy is already responding to the measures we have taken, and I have no doubt that it will come right in good time."

Lawson conceded that his policy was "a slow process" but said that only effective way to curb borrowing was to make it more expensive.

## Poland switches to capitalism

**WARSAW (R)** — The Solidarity-led government unveiled plans Thursday to make Poland the first country in the world to switch from communism to capitalism.

It published a far-reaching economic programme aimed at introducing free market mechanisms and capitalist institutions "in the swiftest possible way" after 45 years of communism.

The programme included restoring private property and other forms of non-state ownership to a

pivotal role in the country's economic system.

It set breakneck timetables for the sweeping structural changes and for simultaneous austerity measures designed to bring hyper-inflation under control.

Anti-inflationary measures would be introduced in the next three months and "full introduction of market mechanisms and institutions" would begin next year to be completed in early 1991, said the government, whose formation a month ago ended

communist rule imposed on Poland after World War II.

"The economic goal is to set up a market economy whose features resemble the proven systems of highly-developed economies," it said.

"The social goal is... to set up an economic system that would make people's lives normal and give them and the entire country a chance of development," it noted.

The measures included extensive sales of state property and removal of restrictions on land and real estate ownership. These were designed to restore private property as a permanent feature of the economy and make it a driving force for efficiency and structural change.

The government admitted the programme would cause temporary industrial recession and unemployment and it would be a

year before Poland's hard-pressed people saw signs of improvement.

Structural changes envisaged in the government's programme included introducing capitalist institutions such as bank reform, personal income tax, value added tax (VAT) and currency, capital, stock and labour markets.

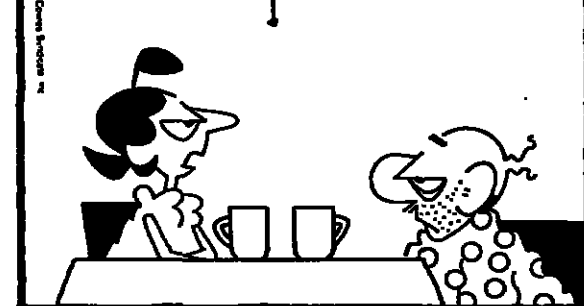
The government said it would curb inflation by slashing the budget deficit. This involved reducing subsidies, tightening credit for industry, holding down wage rises, shutting some inefficient plants and cutting spending.

The measures would be cushioned by a social welfare programme including food stamps providing cheap supplies for more than four million pensioners and poor people.

The programme did not say how much unemployment was expected.

### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

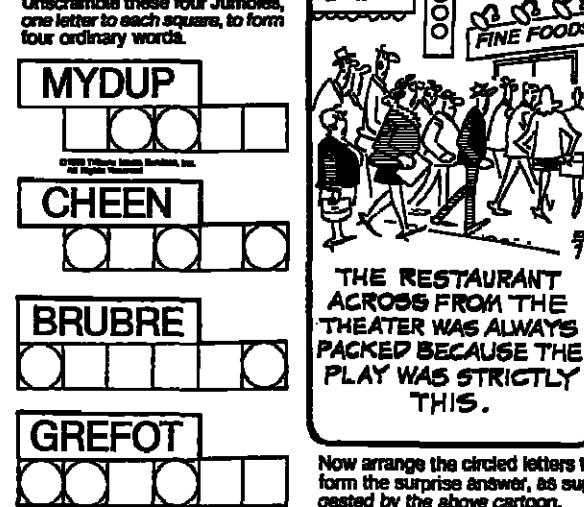
HARRIS 9-18



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### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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Answer here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: COACH ANKLE NUTRIA DEVOUR  
Answer: The best way to tell a woman's age is when she's this—NOT AROUND

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp





## WORLD CUP BRIEFS

**SPAIN DRAWS WITH HUNGARY:** Spain secured the point they needed to reach the World Cup finals on Wednesday with a 2-2 draw against Hungary in their European group six qualifying tie. Julio Salinas and Michel Gonzalez put Spain in the driving seat with goals in the 31st and 36th minutes. But two strikes by Hungarian defender Andras Pinter in the 41st and 83rd minutes levelled the scores and the Spaniards were forced to hang on desperately in the closing stages. The result took Spain to the top of their five-team group with 11 points from seven matches, one point ahead of Ireland. Hungary were left trailing in third place with eight points from their seven matches.

**DENMARK BEATS ROMANIA:** Denmark moved within sight of a place in next year's World Cup soccer finals on Wednesday when they stormed to a 3-0 victory over Romania. Two goals in the opening half-hour put the Danes on top as they swept the Romanians aside on their way to a victory which lifts them a point clear at the top of European group one. Denmark now requires only a point from their final match against Romania in Bucharest next month to clinch their place in Italy next summer.

**YUGOSLAVIA WINS AGAINST NORWAY:** Yugoslavia, reduced to 10 men after only 13 minutes, still completed the fifth win of their World Cup European group five soccer qualifying programme when they beat Norway 1-0. In an undistinguished match, the Yugoslavs, who last month secured their place in next year's finals, scored the game's only goal from the penalty spot in the 45th minute through midfielder Faruk Hadzibegovic. Turkish referee Yusuf Nemoğlu had earlier sent off Mehmet Bazarovic in the 13th minute when the Yugoslav midfielder spat in his face after disputing a decision. Nemoğlu calmly produced the red card but Norway threw away their advantage in the second half when their full-back Gunnar Halle also received his marching orders. Halle departed after 37 minutes after brutally kicking down Yugoslavia's Paris Saint-Germain winger Zlatko Vujovic. Referee Nemoğlu's hectic evening continued when he disallowed a goal by Norway's Jan Ege Fjoroft in the 31st minute because of a foul on Yugoslav goalkeeper Tomislav Ivkovic.

## Lendl moves into Australian semifinals

**SYDNEY, Australia (R)** — Ivan Lendl, the world's top-ranked player, blasted his way past the lackluster challenge of unseeded Swede Thomas Hogstedt Friday night to advance to the semifinals of the \$492,500 Australian indoor tennis championship.

Lendl, who is seeking his third win in the event, out-played Hogstedt 6-2, 6-2 to maintain his record of not having dropped a set.

He now faces in-form Swede Niklas Kroon in Saturday's second semifinal of the 32-draw Nabisco grand prix tournament.

Kroon staged a remarkable recovery, and saved three match points, on his way to a 6-6, 7-5, 7-6 (8-6) win over Australian left-hander Mark Woodforde.

It was a repeat of his win over Woodforde in the final of last week's Queensland open tournament in Brisbane.

The other semifinal Saturday will feature unseeded Swede Lars Wahlgren against his roommate for the past week, Australian teen-ager Johan Anderson.

Wahlgren, who was considering quitting tennis because he wasn't making any money, stun-

ned defending champion Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-3, 7-6 (7-2) to advance to the semis.

Anderson, 18, beat fellow Australian Jason Stoltenberg 6-3, 6-3.

Wahlgren, ranked just 222nd in the world, reached the last four of a grand prix tournament for the first time. He has only ever made it past the first round twice before.

Wahlgren, a powerful but patient baseliner, hit a succession of fine passing shots to oust fifth seeded Zivojinovic in a tight one-hour, 25-minute struggle.

Zivojinovic, angered by the loss, smashed two rackets at the conclusion of the contest and was fined \$500 by grand prix supervisor Bill Gilmore.

Lendl said he would need to be cautious against Kroon, who showed great grit in his long struggle with Woodforde.

"He has been playing well and winning close matches," Lendl said. "I'll need to play well."

Lendl has played exceptionally well in his three matches to date, dropping a total of only 12 games. Kroon looked dejected after



Ivan Lendl

winning only six points in the first set against Woodforde and trailing 4-2 in the second, but fought back magnificently.

"I'm very confident these days and I'm winning the tight matches," Kroon said.

The tournament concludes Sunday.

Wahlgren, who has spent five years as a professional ranked between 200 and 300 on the computer, expects to rise to about 130 as a result of his victories in the tournament. He already is assured of a career-high paycheck of \$19,875 for reaching the semis.

## World chess championship: Yusupov overcomes Karpov

**LONDON (AP)** — Artur Yusupov scored a 37-move victory over fellow Soviet Anatoly Karpov in the fifth round of the world chess championship candidates' semifinal on Thursday to level the match at 2.5-2.5.

In a frantic time scramble, Yusupov, playing white, suddenly unleashed a dramatic bishop sacrifice that tied black's pieces up in knots and won Karpov's queen seven moves later.

When Karpov resigned, the audience in the sadder's wells ballet theater rose for a standing ovation punctuated with cheers and cries of "bravo."

"It was a truly godlike performance. Really courageous," said international master Jonathan Tisdall.

"I've never been so excited watching the end of a game," exclaimed British grandmaster Nigel Short. "Fantastic. What a glorious move."

Karpov, 38, held the world championship crown for 10 years until 1985 and it was widely predicted he would crush his 29-year-old opponent in the eight-game contest.

Asked if his man would now win the match, Yusupov's chief second, Soviet international master Mark Dvoretzky replied, "he will try."

The winner of the candidates cycle will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his title in a 24-game match starting October 1990. The winning semifinalists will face off in the candidates' final next March.

A win scores one point and a draw a half.

In the other semifinal, Jon Speelman of England took a timeout Thursday postponing his seventh game against Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman until Saturday.

With two games remaining, Timman leads 3.5-2.5. Karpov's problems began early in the opening, when a faulty fourth move let Yusupov gain an enduring positional edge.

Several commentators said Karpov had suffered a lapse of memory.

Karpov has "a memory like a sieve, that's all," said Gennady Sosonko, a Dutch grandmaster who emigrated from the Soviet Union in 1971 and is on good terms with the former world champion.

Yusupov, entrenched a knight on a fine outpost in the center of the board, which he later replaced with a bishop.

But Karpov battled his way out, and by the 22nd move, experts were predicting the game would end in a draw.

## Ajax suspension cut to one year

**GENEVA (AP)** — Europe's soccer authority Friday cut to one year the suspension imposed on Ajax Amsterdam, the three-time European champion, because a young fan threw a piece of steel fence at a visiting team's goalkeeper.

An appeals panel of the Union of European Football Associations ruled, however, that after end of the ban Ajax must play its next three European Cup games in a stadium at least 100 kilometers from Amsterdam.

Ajax is the first Dutch club to be banned since the European Cup began in 1956. The suspension applies to the next season in which Ajax would qualify for European competition, not simply the next year.

UEFA's control and disciplinary committee had banned the Dutch for two years on Oct. 5 and disqualified them from this season's tournament.

The ruling applied to the Sept. 27 second-leg, first-round game against Austria Vienna, which was abandoned because of the fan violence, a first in European club competition.

A five-member appeals panel of the Union of European Football Associations, headed by Swiss jurist Leon Straessle, issued the final verdict after testimony from Swiss referee Bruno Galler, a UEFA match observer, Ajax officials and a Dutch Soccer Federation lawyer.

## Agreement against drugs becomes multinational

**MOSCOW (AP)** — The war against drugs in sports rages on, and top administrators believe that with the commitment of everyone involved in the campaign, they at last may be gaining the upper hand.

Out-of-competition checks, a spiraling drive towards multinational cross-testing of athletes and calls for formal anti-doping education in schools were three of the anti-drug proposals that emerged from the second world conference on anti-doping in sports, which ended Thursday.

As the 181 delegates from 31 countries left for home, plans immediately began for another meeting in Europe next month to discuss the expansion of a U.S.-Soviet agreement on cross-testing.

Five countries agreed in Moscow to join the revolutionary programme and U.S. officials said they would be meeting soon with counterparts from Canada, West Germany, Italy, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia, in an attempt to widen the cheat-catching net.

Baron Pittinger, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said the sudden international interest in bilateral cross-testing was a huge boost in the worldwide campaign against the culprits.

"This will turn the bilateral agreement into a multinational agreement," he said. "We want to get the broadest possible programme planned and implemented. It will provide real momentum."

"The more countries that are involved, the more effective programme we'll have," Pittinger said.

The U.S. Olympic chief said the agreement with the Soviets would be implemented sometime next year. Laboratory technicians from both the United States and the Soviet Union already have spent several weeks in each other's country to familiarise themselves with respective testing techniques, he said.

"We want to make sure that when we begin the programme people will be comfortable within the areas that they are working," Pittinger said. "The co-operation with the Russians has so far been outstanding. I've been in a lot more difficult negotiations with people in my own country."

Pittinger said there was still much work to be done before the cross-testing could start. But most of it was within his own country.

"We have to have agreements with all of our national (sports) governing bodies to participate in the programme but I don't think those are going to be difficult," he told the Associated Press. "We also need consent from the athletes themselves. These have to be agreed before cross-testing can begin."

Dr. Ralph Hale, chairman of the USOC's games preparation committee, said he hadn't expected so many nations to join the bandwagon so soon.

"The surprise is the enthusiasm and how people are jumping into something that is not really formalised yet," he said. "It's a good idea. Most good ideas, intelligent people like to adopt."

Under the bilateral agreement, the Americans and Soviets can request up to 100 tests per year during out-of-competition periods at up to 48 hours' notice. Presently, the agreement expires in December, 1992, but is expected to be renewed for at least another four years.

During their talks in Moscow, the U.S. and Soviet Olympic delegations made four amendments to the agreement, signed here 11 months ago. The key change was the insistence by both sides that no athlete may be tested more than three times per year.

"For years, there had been a lot of distrust," Hale said. "We want to make sure the athlete trusts the programme, otherwise it would be destroyed immediately. We'd have a rebellion. Putting in this clause protects the top athletes in particular from harassment."

Shriver came through her first

round match at the \$100,000 Virginia Slims event with a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Louise Field of Australia. It was a rare easy win for the American, whose season has been dogged by poor form and a split from her long-time doubles partner, Martina Navratilova.

Until two weeks ago, Shriver had been scheduled only to play doubles in Moscow but joined the singles draw, giving the tournament a vital boost, because she needed match practise.

"The way I've been playing, it needed something special or I might well have taken a rest," Shriver said Wednesday. "But it's very seldom on the tour that you get an event that stands out. I'd have come here limping if necessary."

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Shriver came through her first

## HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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## A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Both vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**

♠ A 7

♥ A K 10 8 4 2

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 9 3

**EAST**

♠ J 10 9 2

♥ 3 9 7 5

♦ 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 10 8 5 2

**SOUTH**

♠ K Q 8 5 4 3

♥ Q

♦ A K 6

♣ A K 6

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

2 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

4 ♣ Pass 6 NT Pass

6 ♣ Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣.

If you are going to bid like a lunatic, you had better be able to play like a genius—or else be a very weakly man. South's bidding on this hand lived up to the first category—six spades would have been an iron-clad contract—but his play did not come anywhere near the second.

Why South elected to play six trumps rather than the ice-cold contract of six spades is beyond us.

Even with a 4-1 trump split, the latter contract depends only on the hand with the long trumps having at least two hearts.

Declarer wasted no time in going down in his slam. He won the opening diamond lead in hand, cashed the queen of hearts and crossed to the ace of spades. Next, he tried to split out the hearts by cashing the ace-king. When the suit didn't run, he went after spades. Unfortunately, that suit also broke badly. Since declarer had to concede a spade to East, that defender was able to cash a heart trick for down one.

Had declarer stopped to count his tricks, he might have uncovered the safe route to 12 tricks. With four minor-suit tricks and three in hearts, he needed only five tricks from the spade suit. Therefore, after winning the opening lead declarer should have cashed the queen of hearts and then ducked a spade! The defenders can do declarer no harm.

Suppose East wins the spade and returns to diamonds. Declarer wins crosses to the ace of spades and takes the ace-king of hearts, discarding his minor-suit losers. He can get back to his hand with a club, and the rest of the tricks are his.

## THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

**ACROSS**

- Chicago locale
- Linked with pills
- Ancient kingdom
- Atlanta stadium
- Con —
- Water pot
- Literary statement?
- Pig's pad
- Harald's band
- Shoshone
- Woodshed
- Gripping tool
- Some angels
- Far from novel
- Tall tales
- Old car
- Mashed's land
- Peatlon
- Sum the midnight oil
- Whip
- Around: pret.
- Beach
- "— go by"
- (Brooks)
- River to the
- Ubangi
- Harvest
- Powder base
- Less
- Old wood
- Girl and bear
- It
- Madru Plochu land
- Fill with joy
- Slab
- Ancient instrument
- Fruit
- Was indebted

**DOWN**

- Deprivation
- Leave out
- Just
- synd (mark)
- Synthetic cloth
- Egg dish
- Peak de —
- Stammering sounds
- S.A. e.g.
- Liquified
- Yo — Shoppe
- Severance
- Prescription
- Petard person?
- Circle
- Pearl Buck heroine
- Concocted
- Vowed
- Vaughan of song
- Vaccines
- Unadorned
- Blunder
- Brings up
- Random amount
- synd
- Deck post
- World —
- Betray
- Apple or clothes
- Young fellow
- Portion
- Play for time
- Strident
- "Valse —"
- World —
- Blow, follower
- Hairsto
- Leading sp.
- Insect
- Job
- Land unit
- Wasteful plant
- Blow e.g.
- Bustone
- Leading sp.
- Concalt

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvent:

**ACROSS**

- CHICAGO
- LINKED
- ANCIENT
- ATLANTA
- CON
- WATER
- LITERARY
- PIG
- HARALD
- SHOSHONE
- WOODSHED
- GRIPPING
- SOME
- FAR
- TALL
- OLD
- MASHED
- PEATLON
- SUM
- WHIP
- AROUND
- BEACH
- GO BY
- BROOKS
- RIVER
- UBANGI
- HARVEST
- POWDER
- LESS
- OLD
- GIRL
- IT
- MADRUPLOCHU
- FILL
- SLAB
- ANCIENT
- FRUIT
- WAS

**DOWN**

- DEPRIVATION
- LEAVE
- JUST
- SYND
- SYNTHETIC
- EGG
- PEAK
- STAMMERING
- S.A.
- LIQUIFIED
- YO
- SEVERANCE
- PRESCRIPTION
- PETARD
- CIRCLE
- PEARL
- CONCOCTED
- VOWED
- VAUGHAN
- VACCINES
- UNADORNED
- BLUNDER
- BRINGS
- RANDOM
- SYND
- DECK
- WORLD
- BETRAY
- APPLE
- YOUNG
- PORTION
- PLAY
- STRIDENT
- VALSE
- WORLD
- BLOW
- HAIRSTO
- LEADING
- INSECT
- JOB
- LAND
- WASTEFUL
- BLOW
- BUSTONE
- LEADING
- CONCALT

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East Germans loaded into army vehicles after being arrested last week in the worst protests since 1953

## East German leaders debate reforms

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — East German Communist Party chief Erich Honecker met the heads of four small allied parties Friday to discuss the country's emerging movement for political change, the official news agency ADN said.

It gave no immediate details about the talks on "current tasks in the further formation of the developed socialist society in East Germany."

Some of the heads of the four parties — the Liberal Democrats, Christian Democrats, National Democrats and Peasants — have become increasingly outspoken in their calls for reform in the hard-line Communist state.

Faced with the most serious unrest since a workers' uprising was crushed in 1953, the ruling politburo announced Wednesday it was ready to discuss ways to make society more attractive without shifting away from the fundamentals of the socialist system built up over 40 years.

ADN said it would report in more detail on the party chiefs' talks in East Berlin.

Manfred Gerlach, head of the

Liberal Democrats, has been particularly forthright in his comments about breaking with traditional policies and introducing fresh ideas to encourage people to stay rather than emigrate or flee to the West.

Honecker, 77, has until now stuck rigidly to his resistance to reform and diplomats believe the leadership's careful but nonetheless dramatic shift in stance indicates his power base is not as strong as it was.

In an internal Communist Party position paper obtained by the Associated Press, party leaders said "open and hidden enemies of the socialist order" could create a mass movement at odds with the socialist government.

"Any association with such opposition groups would hurt the further development of socialism," the position paper said.

The document was directed primarily at the opposition group New Forum, which has advocated free elections, greater openness in society and a free press.

It said New Forum's platform was "aimed at destroying the leadership role of the Socialist

Society" and accused the group of being made up of "enemies of the socialist order."

On Thursday, the chief ideologue of the Communist Party, Kurt Hager, indicated the opposition movement would be excluded from any discussions about political reform.

Hager said during a visit to Moscow the East German government would consider changes following the departure of tens of thousands of citizens to the West and the most widespread public demonstrations since 1953.

But his reference to possible talks with public organisations, church groups and other social forces did not appear to include the opposition.

"If they want to question our social order, then that's not a basis for discussions," said Hager, who was in Moscow for the opening of a cultural exhibition.

East Germany's Communist government routinely has accused the major opposition groups of trying to undermine socialism.

The future of Honecker, meanwhile, remained a subject of

widespread speculation. Party sources have said influential members of the ruling politburo are upset over the way the 77-year-old Honecker has responded to the unrest.

Party sources said he had been asked to provide a report on the "critical situation" of the nation before the end of this week.

West Germany's mass-circulation Bild newspaper, quoting unidentified Communist Party sources, reported Thursday that Honecker would be replaced Oct. 18.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visited East Berlin last weekend to help East Germany celebrate its 40th anniversary and reportedly urged Honecker to undertake reforms.

Lutheran church sources in East Berlin said late Thursday that officials in Leipzig were preparing to give amnesty to people arrested in protests.

The politburo promised Wednesday to examine the causes of the protests and the recent exodus of mostly young, skilled East Germans to the West.

## 'U.S. Congress partly to blame for Panama fiasco'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Intelligence sources say Congress is partly to blame for U.S. inaction during last week's failed Panamanian coup because lawmakers precluded at least one covert action for which President George Bush sought clearance.

Members of the House Intelligence Committee earlier this year barred the Bush administration from exercising certain unspecified options in Panama "that might have led to a different outcome" in the coup, said intelligence sources who spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity.

"The reason we didn't have total information (as the coup unfolded) was because of the action of some members of the intelligence committee," said one source.

There was "interference" and "second-guessing" when the administration proposed a set of actions designed to give it better inside knowledge of the Panamanian defence forces, the source said.

Also Thursday, the Bush administration denied General Manuel Antonio Noriega's allegation the United States paid \$1 million to rebel officers to launch last week's failed coup.

And a National Security Council staff member, Robert Blackwell, said the coup plotters indicated they didn't want U.S. help.

"Indeed, they said they didn't wish for their effort to be tainted

by American intervention," Blackwell said during a speech at Wichita State University in Kansas.

The Bush administration has said U.S. officials were notified in advance by Panamanians involved in the attempted coup, but did not play a part in planning it.

The intelligence sources said the Bush administration notified Congress earlier this year of options involving Panama in an intelligence "finding", a document required to be given to Congress before covert actions are undertaken.

Some of the loudest criticism of Bush's handling of the Oct. 3 coup attempt against Noriega by rebel officers has come from members of Congress, including Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman David Boren, a member of the opposition Democratic Party.

But House minority leader Robert Michel, a Republican, without mentioning names, said Thursday that there is "plenty in the (classified) record ... to know that some of these people are going far beyond what they've got the right to say about the administration's requests in the past, what was granted and what was denied."

"U.S. delayed help"

The widow of the officer who led the failed coup said U.S. officials were notified of the attempt, agreed to help, but then

delayed in a way that proved fatal.

Adela Bonilla de Giroldi, 36, took refuge at a U.S. base in Panama during the coup attempt and later fled the country. Her husband, Major Moises Giroldi, was executed by Noriega loyalists, she said.

In an interview Thursday, Giroldi said that Oct. 1, two days before the attempted coup, she had a friend arrange a meeting with a U.S. army colonel to inform him of the plan and ask for help in isolating Noriega's downtown headquarters.

"What my husband wanted was for them to overfly (Panamanian) air force bases ... so that no one could leave," she said. "And also to close off the roads" around the headquarters.

The colonel made arrangements with two civilian-clad U.S. officials, who then met privately with her husband, she said. "He told me there were no problems, we were going ahead, and that everything would turn out well."

The U.S. officials gave her husband a telephone number, she said, telling him to call them any time during the coup to request help.

But during the abortive coup, when the rebels seized temporary control of the headquarters and allegedly imprisoned Noriega, her husband's ally, Captain Javier Licona, got few results when he dialed the phone number, she said.

## Palme murder suspect celebrates court decision

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Hours after a Swedish court overturned Christer Pettersson's conviction in the killing of Prime Minister Olof Palme, Pettersson was drinking liquor and playing cards at his suburban home.

He said he felt sorry for the prime minister's widow, Lisbeth Palme, the chief witness against him.

Palme, a four-term prime minister and prominent international figure active in socialist causes and nuclear disarmament, was shot from behind at close range Feb. 28, 1986, as he walked home from a late movie in downtown Stockholm with his wife.

The Svea Appeals Court threw out a split July conviction in district court for the shooting. Not long after, the 42-year-old Pettersson came home to his apartment at northern Stockholm suburb Roteberg, almost as if nothing had happened.

In Pettersson's trial, Mrs. Palme testified she was "100 per cent" certain that he was the gunman. That unequivocal statement means she could not testify against anyone else accused of the crime, according to legal experts.

Many Swedes contend the investigation was bungled and despair that the assassin will ever be caught.

Pettersson, who has a long record of crimes including second-degree murder and armed robberies, is an admitted abuser of alcohol and drugs. He carried a bag of liquor and wine bottles.

Brushing aside a score of reporters and photographers thronging outside the apartment, Pettersson said he would explain how he felt at a news conference he and his lawyer scheduled for Friday. He then entered the door of a neighbour who had taken care of his black cat in his long absence.

The appeals court said in a unanimous ruling there wasn't enough evidence to convict him for the crime that traumatised Sweden.

Pettersson maintained his innocence throughout his sensational trial. Sentenced to life in prison in lower court, chiefly on the testimony of Lisbeth Palme, he had been in solitary confinement since his arrest.

"I'm surprised. I never really believed I would be acquitted,

although I am innocent," Pettersson said directly after his release, according to his lawyer.

After a few hours in the neighbour's apartment, where reporters outside could catch a glimpse of him playing cards at a table with several liquor and wine bottles, he was a bit more talkative.

Speaking through a ventilator, he said of Lisbeth Palme, who was brushed by a bullet when her husband was killed and who twice pointed out Pettersson with "absolute certainty" in court.

"Perhaps, as time goes by, she will realize she did not make such sharp observations after all. I feel deeply for her. Actually my lawyer was more angered at her than I. She has no reason to be afraid of me and it would be fine if we could meet some time in the future."

There was no comment available Thursday from Palme, who was reportedly abroad, or her son Martin who also was a witness for the prosecution.

Pettersson, who vowed he would not go into hiding or try to shield his identity, said he had not thought much yet about possible large damages his lawyer is expected to claim on his account.

## Brundtland resigns

OSLO (R) — Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland resigned Friday as head of a minority Labour government, clearing the way for a centre-right coalition to take power.

Brundtland, 50, Norway's first woman prime minister, formally handed her government's resignation to King Olav at his castle in central Oslo.

"It's best to have the new government sorted out quickly," Jan Syse, conservative leader and prime minister-elect, told reporters as he arrived at the castle, where the king asked him to form a government.

Brundtland forged a reputation as an environmental champion and fighter for women's rights during three difficult years of government.

Honoured abroad but criticised

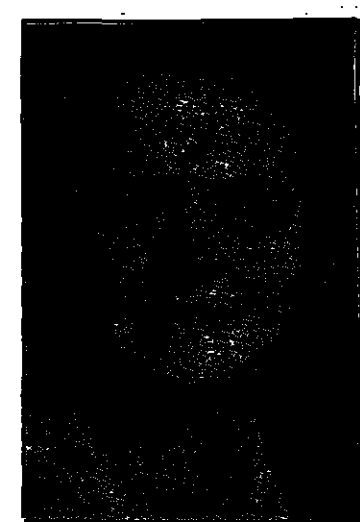
at home, she stamped her authority on Norwegian society and helped put the "Green" cause onto the international agenda.

She named several other women to her cabinet when she took power in 1986, claiming it as a world record. She also pushed through laws to increase maternity leave and build more kindergartens.

Despite the Norway's worst economic recession since World War II, Brundtland tried to avoid cutting the country's network of social benefits and health care.

But the Norwegian media often condemned her domineering and hectoring attitude, comparing it to the style of her British counterpart, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Rarely prepared to admit in public that she is wrong, she



Gro Harlem Brundtland reacts sharply to criticism and those who know her say she has an explosive temper.

## Indonesia to pull troops from Timor despite freedom protest

DILI, Indonesia (R) — Independence protests during Pope John Paul's mass in East Timor will have no effect on Indonesian plans to pull troops out of the disputed territory, a well-placed military source said Friday.

"Jakarta has decided it is time to scale down. It's not the kind of decision you reverse because of a few kids with banners," said the source, who is closely involved in the troop presence in the territory but who asked not to be identified.

Witnesses said up to 100 protesters Thursday battled with police as the Pope told Indonesia to uphold human rights after years of death and destruction in East Timor where Jakarta's rule is still not recognised by the United Nations.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin

Navarro-Valls said the Pope, on a five-day visit to Indonesia, had not been disturbed by the protests.

"He did not give it weight," said Navarro, who put the number of demonstrators at only about 20.

The protesters, mostly students, unfurled banners asking for the Pope's help in ending military oppression and giving support to the pro-independence Fretilin guerrilla movement.

Fretilin, which has only a few hundred guerrillas fighting in the hills, has been a thorn in Jakarta's side since Indonesian troops annexed the former Portuguese colony in 1975.

Indonesia's armed forces moved in after the Portuguese hastily left during a conflict in which the Fretilin party seemed to be defeating pro-Jakarta par-

ties. In Lisbon, Fretilin issued a statement saying it was disappointed with the Pope's visit which had endorsed Indonesian efforts to obtain international legitimacy for its control.

Amnesty International and other groups have accused Indonesia of repeatedly abusing human rights. An estimated 200,000 East Timorese have died since Indonesian troops swept into the largely Catholic territory.

"It's true the Indonesian army is not that clean. But Fretilin has done its mass killings too," said the military source.

He estimated half the population of East Timor were passive supporters of Fretilin and other anti-Indonesian groups.

## COLUMN

### Blast hurls boulder through roof of home

WESTOVER, West Virginia (AP) — Susan Loudon thought a tree had crashed into the roof of her home when she felt a rumble that shook her "right down to the fillings in my teeth." "Boy, was I wrong," Loudon said Monday as she pointed to a 227-kilogram limestone boulder lobbed through her roof by a construction-site blast. The stone lodged in the floor of a bedroom shared by Loudon's sons, ages eight and 10. The boys weren't in the room, and nobody was hurt. Blasting by workers preparing a shopping mall site hurled the boulder 100 metres in the air, and nearly 60 metres sideways, said Monongalia County Sheriff's deputy Sandra Bonnett. A smaller chunk of rock also hit the house, she said.

### cheek-to-cheek dancing banned in Chinese city

BEIJING (AP) — Cheek-to-cheek dancing has been declared out of step in the dance halls of Shenzhen, one of China's most open cities. The Shenzhen Daily newspaper said disco dancing, using sexual enticements to attract customers and disturbing social order are violations of local entertainment regulations. It said three dance halls recently were closed and fined 2,000 yuan (\$540) each for using lewd means to solicit customers. The newspaper said the closures were part of a citywide inspection and reorganisation of Shenzhen's 90 dance halls and teahouses. The popular dance spots play a positive role in providing a fulfilling cultural life for the masses and contributing to the city's investment environment, the paper said. But some, it said, suffer from poor management and others have been influenced by "bourgeois liberalisation," the trend of favouring Western liberal art thought that is being attacked by the Communist Party's conservative leadership.

Arbiters of public morals generally frown on close dancing and other public displays of affection.

### 'Rite of Spring' ballet still shocks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vaslav Nijinsky's "The Rite of Spring," the revolutionary ballet that provoked a riot at its Paris premiere 76 years ago, is showing the jaded world of the 1980s that it can still shock an audience. When the Joffrey Ballet presented its revival of the long-lost Nijinsky masterpiece, set to Igor Stravinsky's jarringly primitive score, about 50 spectators stalked silently out of the Kennedy Center opera house during Friday's opening-night performance. Choreographed by the legendary Nijinsky, the ballet received a far more tumultuous reception at its theater des Champs-Elysees debut in Paris May 29, 1913. Then, the audience erupted in catcalls, whistles and howling animal sounds when the dancers of the ballets Russes de Monte Carlo, standing hunched and pigeon-toed, began stomping obsessively to Stravinsky's frenzied rhythms as they carried out the ancient Slavic ritual of a maiden's sacrifice for the renewal of spring. Fightsticks broke out, dowagers shrieked and impresario Serge Diaghilev was pelted with fruit when he stood in the balcony to plead for order. The uproar drowned out conductor Pierre Monteux's musicians, and Nijinsky stood on a chair in the wings furiously shouting cues to the dancers. Nijinsky's triumph shattered classical ballet traditions and marked the violent birth of modern dance.

## Pinball money scandal — the latest to tilt Japan politics

TOKYO (R) — A new influence peddling scandal involving the Japanese pinball industry is threatening to rock Japan's major political parties.

A federation of recreation industry unions compiled a list of more than a hundred parliamentarians from both ruling and opposition parties who allegedly received huge sums of money from pinball barons over the past five years.

Japanese newspapers are reporting that some of the politicians were receiving funds while legislation regulating the Japanese pinball industry was under debate in parliament, raising allegations that they exchanged money for influence.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Mayumi Moriama ordered all cabinet members Friday to search campaign fund records for any contributions from an industry

notorious for tax evasion and links with organised crime.

So far at least two cabinet members have confirmed acceptance of campaign contributions from pinball industry representatives.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was just beginning to polish a party image tainted by previous scandals, two of which brought down LDP prime ministers.

Japanese pinball, or "pachinko" is a national passion. Devotees cram into crowded, smoke-filled parlours all over the Japan to watch ball-bearings bounce down vertical machines in hopes that one will find its way into the right hole.

Winners turn in jackpot loads of ball-bearings for prizes such as pens, toys, cigarettes and other bric-a-brac. These in turn are

exchanged for cash at nearby storefronts which are technically illegal.

The government has had difficulty taxing the extremely profitable industry which raked in more than eight trillion yen (\$60 billion) in 1988, according to industry sources.

Last summer parliament debated the introduction of prepaid cards for pachinko players, which would aid the tax process.

LDP sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, strongly suggested that the opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP) argued against the cards on behalf of the industry in exchange for generous campaign contributions.

LDP parliamentarians ironically were alleged to have taken in more money than those of any other party. Eighty-four were listed as receiving a total of 116

million yen (\$775,000) worth in contributions.

But the controversy centres around nine JSP members who allegedly were paid a total of some 12 million yen (\$82,000) to represent pachinko interests in parliament.

A JSP spokesman at a news conference Friday denied the allegations about members of his party.

Korean and Chinese minorities own more than half the nation's 15,000 pachinko parlours, and, according to the Japanese weekly Shukan Bunshun, Korean parlour owners provide enormous support to communist North Korea.

The JSP, whose high-profile chairwoman Takako Doi is a self-described pachinko fanatic, has traditionally supported closer ties with North Korea.

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